

# 2022 2023 LEGISLATIVE GOALS



## WHO WE ARE

DAV is dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. DAV, a non-profit organization with more than 1 million members, was founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1932.

### STAY INFORMED THROUGH DAV CAN

Sign up for DAV CAN (Commander's Action Network), and we will keep you up to date on issues that impact veterans, their families, survivors and caregivers.

**DAVCAN.ORG**

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Washington, DC 20005  
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TO GET HELP, VOLUNTEER  
OR DONATE, VISIT:  
**DAV.ORG**

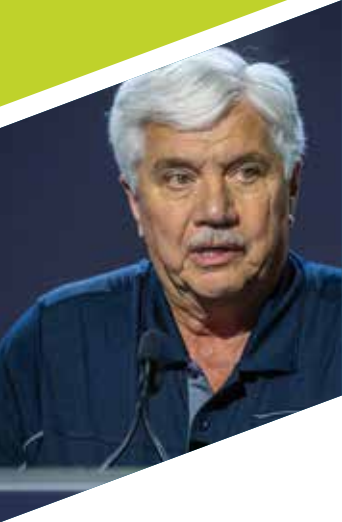


## LEGISLATIVE GOALS FOR 2022-2023

DAV members convene at our annual national convention to decide on the organization's legislative goals for the year. These goals help DAV's legislative team in Washington, D.C., focus on issues most important to our members as they advocate for the laws and policies that affect the disabled veteran community.

In 2022, DAV members submitted a high number of resolutions to the convention, helping to shape this year's advocacy agenda.

The following is a partial list of key resolutions adopted in 2022 that we will continue to focus our advocacy efforts on until the 2023 DAV National Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey. To see the full list of resolutions, visit [dov.org/about-dav/legislation/dav-resolutions](https://dov.org/about-dav/legislation/dav-resolutions).



## 2022-2023 LEGISLATIVE GOALS

### DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS

- Support legislation to remove the prohibition against concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans disability compensation.
- Support legislation to increase disability compensation.
- Support legislation to provide for realistic cost-of-living allowances.
- Oppose reduction, taxation or elimination of veterans benefits.
- Support legislation to provide service connection for disabling conditions resulting from toxic and environmental exposures.
- Support legislation to protect total disability based on Individual Unemployability benefits and ensure it remains available for all eligible veterans regardless of age or receipt of any other federal benefits.
- Support oversight of the VA's practices used in evaluating disability claims for residuals of military sexual trauma.
- Support legislation to improve and reform Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.
- Support an Increase in the Department of Veterans Affairs Burial Allowance for Service-Connected Veterans and Provide Automatic Annual Adjustments.

### MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES

- Support program improvement and enhanced resources for VA mental health programs and suicide prevention.
- Support enhanced medical services and benefits for women veterans.
- Support equity in access to services and benefits for racial and ethnic minority service-connected veterans.
- Support the rights and benefits earned by service-connected Native American and Alaska Native veterans.
- Provide comprehensive dental care to all service-connected disabled veterans within the VA health care system.
- Enhance long-term services and supports for service-connected disabled veterans.
- Strengthen and protect the VA health care system.
- Ensure a safe, secure and effective electronic health record for veterans that allows the VA to fulfill core missions of patient care, research and training.
- Support effective recruitment, retention and development of the VA health care system workforce.
- Ensure timely access to quality VA health care and medical services.
- Support modernizing VA health care infrastructure.
- Support legislation to provide comprehensive support services for caregivers of severely wounded, injured and ill veterans from all eras.
- Support VA research into the medical efficacy of cannabis for treatment of service-connected veterans.
- Support improvements in provider training and beneficiary travel benefits for veterans seeking specialized treatment programs and care for military sexual trauma.
- Support humane, consistent pain management programs in the veterans health care system.
- Support VA medical and prosthetic research programs.
- Support sufficient funding for VA prosthetic

and sensory aids and timely delivery of prosthetic items.

- Support legislation to eliminate or reduce VA and DOD health care copayments for service-connected disabled veterans.
- Adequately fund and sustain the Readjustment Counseling Service of the VA and its Vet Center Program.

### GENERAL ISSUES

- Support sufficient, timely and predictable funding for all VA programs, benefits and services.
- Support elimination of employment licensure and certification barriers that impede the transfer of military occupations to the civilian labor market.
- Support legislation to improve and protect education and employment benefits for disabled veterans and their survivors.
- Protect veterans from employment discrimination when receiving health care for service-connected conditions.
- Account for those still missing and the repatriation of the remains of those who died while serving our nation.
- Support legislation to strengthen and protect Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.
- Extend space-available air travel to caregivers and dependents of eligible veterans.
- Support the continued growth of Veterans Treatment Courts for justice-involved veterans.
- Support veterans' preference in public employment.