



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS BENJAMIN GOSSEL / ARMY

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

LEGISLATIVE GOALS FOR 2021-2022

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 2021, DAV members submitted a historically high number of resolutions at the convention, helping to shape this year's advocacy agenda.

The following is a partial list of key resolutions adopted in 2021 that we will continue to focus our advocacy efforts on until the 2022 DAV National Convention in Orlando, Florida. To see the full list of resolutions, visit dav.la/2il.

2021-2022 Legislative Goals



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TO GET HELP, VOLUNTEER
OR DONATE, VISIT:
DAV.ORG

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2021-2022

Legislative Goals

DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS

- Support legislation to provide service connection for disabling conditions resulting from toxic and environmental exposures.
- Support legislation to improve and reform Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.
- Support legislation to remove the prohibition against concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans disability compensation for all longevity-retired veterans.
- Oppose reduction, taxation or elimination of veterans benefits.
- Support legislation to increase disability compensation.
- Support legislation to provide for realistic cost-of-living allowances.
- 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 legislation to provide presumptive service connection for illnesses and diseases related to herbicide exposure in veterans who were stationed at air bases in Thailand during the Vietnam War.
- Support oversight of the VA's practices used in evaluating disability claims for residuals of military sexual trauma.

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, underserved and minority veterans.
- Enhance long-term care services and supports for service-connected disabled veterans.
- Strengthen and protect the VA health care system.
- 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.
- Ensure timely access to quality VA health care and medical services.
- Support VA medical and prosthetic research programs.
- Support sufficient funding for VA prosthetic and sensory aids and timely delivery of prosthetic items.

GENERAL ISSUES

- Support sufficient, timely and predictable funding for all VA programs, benefits and services.
- Support veterans' preference in public employment.
- 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.
- Support the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command.
- 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.

“We are grateful to have an increasingly **engaged group of members** who help to identify these areas of concern.”

—National Legislative Director Joy Ilem

