#### H.R. 543, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013

Introduced in the House on February 6, 2013

H.R. 543 would include, as part of the Republic of Vietnam, its territorial seas for purposes of the presumption of service connection for diseases associated with exposure by veterans to certain herbicide agents while in Vietnam.

In accordance with DAV Resolution No. 035.



#### Space-Available Travel for Veterans Rated Permanently and Totally Disabled

H.R. 164, introduced on January 4, 2013, and S. 346, introduced on February 14, 2013, would permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel

These bills would direct the Secretary of Defense to provide transportation on scheduled and unscheduled military flights within the United States and on scheduled overseas flights on a space-available basis for veterans with service-connected, permanent disabilities rated as total.

In accordance with DAV Resolution No. 036.



#### **Concurrent Receipt for Disabled Military Retirees**

H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act, introduced January 15, 2013

H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act, introduced in the House January 22, 2013

S. 234, the Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2013, introduced February 7, 2013

These bills would allow for the receipt of both military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation with respect to any service-connected disability (under current law, only a disability rated at 50% or more receives both) and repeals provisions phasing in the full concurrent receipt of such pay.

The bills also make eligible for full concurrent receipt to those individuals who were retired or separated based on disability

In accordance with DAV Resolution No. 011.



#### Survivors Benefits Plan (SBP) and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

H.R. 32, the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, introduced January 3, 2013 S. 734, introduced April 16, 2013

These bills would repeal certain provisions that require offset of amounts paid in DIC and SBP annuities for the surviving spouses of former military personnel who were entitled to military retired pay, or would be entitled, except for being under 60 years of age

They also prohibit the Secretary of Defense from recouping certain amounts previously paid to SBP recipients in the form of retired pay refunds and repeal the optional authority of (and instead require) the Secretary of the military department concerned to pay an annuity to a member's dependent children when no eligible spouse survives

The bills also direct the Secretary concerned to restore annuity eligibility to a surviving spouse who earlier agreed to transfer such eligibility to a surviving child or children.

In accordance with DAV Resolution No. 036.

