

# VETERAN LEGISLATION

**13 January 2013**

As of 13 JAN of the 113th House and zero Senate bills introduced in the 113th Congress, the following are of interest to the non-active duty veteran community. A good indication on the likelihood of a bill of being forwarded to the House or Senate for passage and subsequently being signed into law by the President is the number of cosponsors who have signed onto the bill. An alternate way for it to become law is if it is added as an addendum to another bill such as the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and survives the conference committee assigned to iron out the difference between the House and Senate bills. At <http://thomas.loc.gov> you can review a copy of each bill's text, determine its current status and number of cosponsors, the committee it has been assigned to, who your representative is and his/her phone number, mailing address, or email/website to communicate with a message or letter of your own making, and if your legislator is a sponsor or cosponsor of it. To separately determine what bills, amendments your representative has sponsored, cosponsored, or dropped sponsorship on refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/d111/sponlst.html>. To review a numerical list of all bills introduced refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/111search.html>.

## **The Following Color Codes Apply to the Bills Listed Below**

1. Bills that are being pushed by various veterans groups for passage include a website highlighted in red which if clicked on will take the reader to a preformatted message for automatic transmission to their legislator requesting he/she support the bill.
2. Bill numbers that have passed either the House or Senate and have been forwarded to the other chamber or the President for action are highlighted in Green.
3. Bills that have passed both chambers of Congress and been signed into law are highlighted in Blue.
4. Bills that the RAO considers to have the highest priority are highlighted in Yellow.
5. Bill numbers that have been incorporated in other bills are highlighted in Gray.
6. Bill numbers and titles in violet (if any) are new additions to this summary.

---

---

# House Legislation

## House Bills

**Note:** Go to <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php> and enter bill number in the Search block to determine current cosponsor status and last major action taken by the House.

+++++

H.R.32 : **Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan for military surviving spouses to offset the receipt of veterans dependency and indemnity compensation.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/3/2013)    Cosponsors (19)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/3/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/?bill=62315971>.

-----  
H.R.44 : **Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act.** A bill to implement the recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission.

Sponsor: Rep Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [GU] (introduced 1/3/2013)    Cosponsors (10)

Committees: House Natural Resources

Latest Major Action: 1/3/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

-----  
H.R.110 : **WWII Filipino Service Claims.** A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to determine the validity of the claims of certain Filipinos that they performed military service on behalf of the United States during World War II.

Sponsor: Rep Hanabusa, Colleen W. [HI-1] (introduced 1/3/2013)    Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/11/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

-----  
H.R.111 : **WWII Filipino Vets Service Gold Medal.** A bill to award a Congressional gold medal, collectively, to the Filipino Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

Sponsor: Rep Hanabusa, Colleen W. [HI-1] (introduced 1/3/2013) Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Financial Services; House Administration  
Latest Major Action: 1/3/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

-----

H.R.153 : **Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2013.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Rep McIntyre, Mike [NC-7] (introduced 1/4/2013) Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/4/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

-----

H.R.154 : **VA Public Service Vet Medal.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Department of Veterans Affairs Medal for Distinguished Public Service to honor veterans who make remarkable and distinguished contributions to their communities.  
Sponsor: Rep McIntyre, Mike [NC-7] (introduced 1/4/2013) Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/11/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

-----

H.R.164 : **Disabled Vet Space A Travel.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to 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.  
Sponsor: Rep Bilirakis, Gus M. [FL-12] (introduced 1/4/2013) Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 1/4/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

-----

H.R.179 : **VA Franchise Training.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow certain veterans to use educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for franchise training.  
Sponsor: Rep Griffin, Tim [AR-2] (introduced 1/4/2013) Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 1/4/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

-----

H.R.183 : **VA Dog Training Pilot Program.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy.  
Sponsor: Rep Grimm, Michael G. [NY-11] (introduced 1/4/2013) Cosponsors (1)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/4/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

-----  
**\*\* Union Calendar:** A separate calendar in the United States House of Representatives that schedules bills involving money issues. It arose from the requirement in Article One of the United States Constitution that all revenue bills originate in the House of Representatives. To meet that requirement, Rule XIII.

---

# Senate Legislation

## Senate Bills

**Note:** Go to <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php> and enter bill number in the Search block to determine current cosponsor status and last major action taken by the Senate.

+++++

### The Following Color Codes Apply to the Bills Listed Below

1. Bills that are being pushed by various veterans groups for passage include a website highlighted in red which if clicked on will take the reader to a preformatted message for automatic transmission to their legislator requesting he/she support the bill.
2. Bill numbers that have passed either the House or Senate and have been forwarded to the other chamber or the President for action are highlighted in Green.
3. Bills that have passed both chambers of Congress and been signed into law are highlighted in Blue.
4. Bills that the RAO considers to have the highest priority are highlighted in Yellow.
5. Bill numbers that have been incorporated in other bills are highlighted in Gray.
6. Bill numbers and titles in violet (if any) are new additions to this summary.

---

**No bills submitted in Senate to date.**

Source: <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/LegislativeData.php?n=Browse> 13 Jan 2012 ++]