



American Legion Post 201

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### **National Commander Outlines American Legion Position on 'Take Care of America's Veterans Act'**

*Editor's Note: The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (H.R. 9237) is a massive legislative package combining more than 60 bipartisan bills to improve care and benefits for veterans, survivors, and caregivers. Given the ongoing debate and the impact the bill will have on veterans, we believe it is important to share the American Legion's legislative position. But first, we thought a little background might be helpful.*

*While the bill is actively supported by 23 service organizations including the American Legion and the Military Officers Association of America, it is creating controversy on Capitol Hill. That controversy stems from its financing. To offset new program costs, the bill implements \$57 billion or \$58 billion (depending on which side of the issue you sit) in funding cuts over 10 years.*

*The two figures refer to slightly different perspectives on the bill's fiscal impact:*

*The \$57 Billion figure is the official VA estimate for how much money will be cut or saved over a decade by restructuring the disability rating criteria for tinnitus and sleep apnea. Outspoken opponents, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Disabled American Veterans (DAV), use this number to highlight the direct loss to future disabled veterans.*

*The \$58 Billion figure is the broader value cited by supporting organizations like the American Legion and the Wounded Warrior Project. They view the legislation as a means to lock in up to \$58 billion in total funding for veterans' services. They argue that if the bill fails, a pending internal VA administrative rule change could divert up to \$58 billion away from veterans entirely and send it back to the U.S. Treasury.*

*Now to the bill itself.*

*What the bill does:* *It expands health care and financial relief for specific vulnerable groups. It funds \$200 million in community suicide prevention grants and invests \$500 million to modernize VA cybersecurity and fraud prevention. It also adds a \$10,000 special monthly allowance for the most severely disabled veterans and provides paid help for spinal cord injury care.*

*What the bill does not do:* *It does not protect all future disability payouts. Instead, it revises rating criteria to effectively eliminate or slash future payouts for sleep apnea and tinnitus. Furthermore, it does not keep VA home loan fees low; it nearly triples funding fees from 0.5% to 1.42%, forcing some buyers to pay thousands more upfront.*

*Earlier this week we received the American Legion National Commander's view on the legislation. We have reprinted that letter in full and have included links to the sites that his letter referred to.*

*We hope you will find the content of this Editor's Note valuable. We also suggest that you consider reading an excellent article on this piece of legislation which was published on Tuesday, July 7 by Military.com. [Click here to read it.](#) - - hdh*

## **The National Commander's Message**

Dear American Legion Family members and friends,

The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) is really a \$58 billion proposition.

If the legislation, which includes more than 60 veterans-related bills, does not get approved by Congress, veterans stand to lose up to \$58 billion in programs, benefits and other matters.

Just like when we were in the military, this is a case of "Use it or lose it." Let me explain.

The VA has proposed a rule which estimates say will result in somewhere between \$19 billion and \$58 billion being diverted from veteran benefits to the U.S. Treasury. The American Legion has objected to this rule change. Despite our best efforts, the VA has not withdrawn this proposed rule. That means if we don't act, billions of dollars will go from supporting veterans to funding other causes.

The American Legion is among a coalition of 23 veteran organizations that wrote to the leaders of Congress, advocating to pass TCAVA and keep those tens of billions of dollars for veterans. ([Read the letter here.](#))

Let me be clear. We are not trading veterans' benefits. We are using up to \$58 billion to help our brothers and sisters, rather than lose it. That's it — use it or lose it.

And that is why The American Legion supports the Take Care of America's Veterans Act. This legislation combines more than 60 bills, most of which The American Legion supports.

- It expands suicide prevention.
- It improves care for traumatic brain injuries.
- It offers relief for combat-injured retirees through the Major Richard Star Act.
- It gives real support for the family caregivers who hold our wounded together.

If the Take Care of America's Veterans Act does not pass in its current form, none of these reforms will happen.

That is something The American Legion won't stand for. And neither should you.

I recommend reviewing the facts about this legislation, understanding the Legion's process and encouraging your members of [Congress to support TCAVA](#). Visit [this special web page](#) for those resources and more.

Dan K. Wiley  
National Commander  
The American Legion

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## Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

***9-Ball Pool Tournament, 2 p.m.  
Every 3rd Sunday in the Clubroom/Bar***

**VIEW FEATURED  
POST EVENTS**

**Thursday, July 9, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.**

**Sunday, July 12, 2 p.m. BINGO at the Post. \$1,000 Jackpot.**

**Tuesday, July 14, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, July 21, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting** and installation of officers for the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL. Complimentary dinner served in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**Saturday, July 25, 6 p.m. Baseball, Hot Dogs & Apple Pie Golden Ladle Competition.** Contestants should bring a picnic side dish - - slaws, salads and dips, or whatever you would serve as a picnic side. Hot Dogs and all the fixings will be provided. Scott Hoehn with VIP of GA will be the DJ for the evening. The cocktail of the day will be a "Water Hazard" for \$5 per drink. Ingredients are vodka, Blue Gatorade, lemonade, Sprite and ice. Those attending will have an opportunity to win four infield, dugout level seats for the Tuesday, Aug. 11 Braves vs. New York Mets game which gets underway a 7:15 p.m. And the winning ticket for the 50/50 raffle which is raising money to purchase a new AED Defibrillator for the Post will be drawn at 7 p.m. Watch for more info in the Clubroom.

**Sunday, July 26, 2 p.m. BINGO at the Post. \$1,000 Jackpot.**

**Saturday, Aug. 1. Old Soldiers Day.** The winning ticket for the Auxiliary's Hand Made Quilt Auction will be drawn at 4 p.m. You do not have to be present to win. The Auxiliary started selling raffle tickets for the handmade quilt in early July. Tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, and 10 for \$20. The quilt has a Pioneer pattern which ties in nicely with the nation's 250th birthday. Other planning for the day's activities are still underway

**Tuesday, Aug. 4. Coast Guard Birthday**

**Friday, Aug. 7. Purple Heart Day.**

**Tuesday, Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m. SAL Membership Meeting.**

**Wednesday, Aug. 26. Kabul 13 Remembrance Day.**

**Monday, Sept. 7. Labor Day.**

**Friday, Sept. 11. Patriot Day (Informally known as 9/11 Remembrance Day).**

**Friday, Sept. 18. U.S. Air Force Birthday.**

**Saturday, Sept. 19. POW/MIA Recognition Day.**

**Wednesday, Oct. 14. 9th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament.** The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. Contact Derek Garmon, 770-549-5669, [derekgarmon@yahoo.com](mailto:derekgarmon@yahoo.com), or Bruce Hay, 309-657-8528, [hayville@att.net](mailto:hayville@att.net) for details.

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 10th Annual Cruz-In "car show".** Free for members of the general public who want to visit the Post and look at the cars on display. The registration fee for those showing cars: \$10 pre-show; \$20 day of show. To register [click here](#) , or if you need more details or have questions email [al201carshow@gmail.com](mailto:al201carshow@gmail.com). Food and drinks will be available for sale, and children can take advantage of a jump house and other planned activities during the 4-hour event. Also, a "Stars & Stripes" baseball game pitting the Aviator Nation against the Georgia Jackets, is scheduled for 11 a.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 12 noon. 2nd Annual Georgia American Legion Veterans Raffle Drawing.** [Click this link](#) for details. Tickets are now available at the Post. Winning tickets will be drawn Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026. You do not have to be present to win. For every \$20 ticket sold by Post 201, the Post gets to keep \$12 for its treasury.

**Wednesday, Nov.11. Veterans Day.**

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**CLUB 201 DANCE -  
LEARN MORE**

## VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the [Resource Page](#) at Post 201's website, [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) for a significant amount of information concerning various resources available for veterans. You'll find a Survivor Assistance Checklist, Benefits for Georgia Veterans, Burial at Sea Information, Veteran's License Plates Information, Emergency Housing Information Guide and many other resources.

**Past Issues of the Post's E-newsletter - [Click here](#).**

### **Veterans Crisis Line**

**Call 988 and Press 1 or Text 838255**

**Visit [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)**

**VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387**

**Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022**