



TAKE CARE OF AMERICA'S VETERANS ACT (TCAVA)

TCAVA is a comprehensive legislative package combining more than 60 bipartisan veterans' bills and legislative priorities.

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO ALL RESPONDENTS

The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) is a comprehensive legislative package combining more than 60 bipartisan veterans' bills and legislative priorities designed to improve the lives and care of veterans and their families.

1 BENEFITS & COMPENSATION

- ▶ The Major Richard Star Act
- ▶ The Love Lives On Act
- ▶ Extension of increased DIC to surviving spouses of veterans who die from ALS
- ▶ The Sharri Briley and Eric Edmundson Act
- ▶ Veterans Benefits Expansion Act of 2026
- ▶ Improvements to claims adjudications and appeals
- ▶ Annual report on causes of death among veterans
- ▶ Automation tools for processing VA claims
- ▶ Improvements to military sexual trauma claims processing and outreach

2 EDUCATION & TRANSITION

- ▶ The Vets Opportunity Act
- ▶ Improvements to Transition Assistance Program and SkillBridge
- ▶ Transition Assistance Program presentation on veterans benefits
- ▶ Expansion of payments for licensing and certification tests
- ▶ Increased educational assistance for apprenticeships and on-the-job training
- ▶ Improving Emerging Technology Opportunities for Veterans

3 CAREGIVERS, TBI & MENTAL HEALTH

- ▶ Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act
- ▶ Veterans TBI Breakthrough Exploration of Adaptive Care Opportunities Nationwide Act
- ▶ Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program reauthorization
- ▶ Reports on the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy
- ▶ Mental health provider grant pilot program
- ▶ Precision Medicine for Veterans Initiative
- ▶ Blast Overpressure Task Force
- ▶ VA/DoD health care resource sharing
- ▶ Veterans Spinal Trauma Access to New Devices Act
- ▶ Service dog grant pilot program
- ▶ Bowel and bladder care program

4 HEALTH CARE ACCESS

- ▶ Expansion of access to critical access hospitals under the Veterans Community Care Program
- ▶ Improvements to VA prosthetic and rehabilitative items and services
- ▶ Improved medical-document submission by community care providers
- ▶ Improvements to VA health care appointment scheduling
- ▶ VA/Medicare care-coordination pilot program
- ▶ Fisher House availability
- ▶ Agreements between VA medical facilities and rural medical facilities
- ▶ Research on descendants of toxic-exposed veterans
- ▶ Opioid rescue medication pilot program
- ▶ Research on menopause, perimenopause, and mid-life women's health

5 COMMUNITY CARE & VA REFORM

- ▶ Codification of community-care eligibility standards
- ▶ Notification of community-care eligibility or denial
- ▶ Consideration of continuity of care and caregiver needs
- ▶ Discussion of telehealth options
- ▶ Information on wait-time and drive-time options
- ▶ Community-care referral validity periods
- ▶ Community-care provider quality requirements
- ▶ Community-care provider training
- ▶ Oversight authority over community care
- ▶ Access to mental-health residential rehabilitation for veterans with spinal cord injury or disorder

6 GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

- ▶ VA personnel transparency
- ▶ VA strategic human capital plan
- ▶ VA reduction-in-force notice requirement

OTHER IMPORTANT PROVISIONS INCLUDE:

Programs supporting rural veterans, employment and job training, transportation to care, dental care, and numerous other targeted improvements across VA services.

The provisions above are drawn from, or summarize provisions identified in, H.R. 9237, the Take Care of America's Veterans Act.

THE CHALLENGE: HOW TO PAY FOR EXPANDED BENEFITS

Many TCAVA provisions would increase federal spending. Congressional budget rules make identifying acceptable offsets an important part of assembling a package that can pass.

SECTION 108

Changes VA disability-rating criteria for sleep apnea and tinnitus claims filed after enactment; existing compensation is protected.

OTHER BUDGETARY PROVISIONS

TCAVA also contains other budgetary provisions, including changes to certain VA home-loan fees.

THE TRADEOFF

Removing an offset can require Congress to find replacement savings, reduce spending elsewhere, modify the underlying benefits, or accept additional deficit spending.

THE BIG PICTURE

TCAVA combines dozens of veterans' legislative priorities into a single package. Many have broad bipartisan support. The central debate is not only what benefits Congress should enact, but what policy changes and funding mechanisms lawmakers are willing to accept to enact them.