

FIGHTING FOR FLORIDA'S VETERANS

SENATOR RICK SCOTT'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION UPDATE

DEMANDING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AMERICAN HEROES

- **SCHEDULES for Veterans Act:** The bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish an overall timeliness standard from when a consult is entered into the system and a veteran's appointment happens. It also requires a quarterly report on the percentage of referrals to providers in the community and appointments at Veterans Health Administration facilities that meet the set standards.
- **Veterans Accessibility Act of 2023:** This bill establishes a Veterans Advisory Committee on Equal Access at Veterans Affairs. The advisory committee will issue regular reports on VA's compliance with federal disability laws, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act* and the *Rehabilitation Act*.
- **Major Richard Star Act:** It is time to fully honor veterans who were medically retired as a result of injuries incurred in combat or combat-related training. Regardless of time in service, these veterans have earned all of their benefits through their extraordinary sacrifice in defending our nation.
- **Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act:** This legislation would expand community-based services for aging veterans as well as improve VA support for veterans and caregivers of all ages.
- **Protecting Veteran Community Care Act:** This bill addresses the issue of access to mental health care resources for veterans. It strengthens the existing community care program and limits the VA's ability to restrict access to care in the community, as well as requires the VA to track relevant community care data.
- **Nov. 10, 2023 - United States Senate Special Committee on Aging Field Hearing titled, "Veterans Access to Care, Services and Economic Opportunity."** This hearing addressed critical issues facing veterans such as scheduling delays, the transition from active duty to civilian life and access to facilities and resources for disabled veterans, among other issues.

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY OF VETERANS

Senate Bill 291 establishes the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration to administer economic opportunity assistance programs for veterans, their dependents and survivors. The Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration must administer vocational rehabilitation and employment programs, educational assistance programs, veteran housing loans and related programs, the Transition Assistance Program as well as the database of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.

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OF MY 2023 VETERANS
UPDATE!



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