Coalition of Veterans Organizations





MARCH2023

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT, March, 2023

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- 1. In reporting legislation that has been introduced, the same bills and writeups from the previous month will be repeated, with new bills or changes in **boldface**.
- 2. S. 10 VA Careers Act of 2023: Legislation to bolster efforts to recruit and retain strong clinical and managerial leadership in the VA health care system and make other important improvements to attract clinicians in scarce medical specialties. It has 4 co-sponsors, none from IL.
- 3. S. 42 Build for Veterans Act of 2023: This infrastructure bill has 4 co-sponsors, none from IL.
- 4. S.141 Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act: It expands the program for home care. It has 3 cosponsors, none from IL.
- 5. There are no bills for dental care so far, but we expect some soon, possibly at the end of March, in conjunction with the AIDPH effort in DC. The controversy over the Federal Debt. Limit could have a very negative effect on proposals for spending for dental care.

The American Inst. For Dental Public Health will have a major effort, not only in D. C., but will also be asking everyone else to make calls, write letters, and get involved, March 27-28. We are asked to contact congressmen/senators on the need for VA dental care.

- 6. The Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County and the Hines VAMC hosted a Veterans Resource Fair, Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 1000-1400, at the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center Auditorium (lower level), 1100 S. Hamilton Ave., Chicago, just a few blocks from the JBVAMC. It was very well done.
- 7. The Chicago Wolves annual Salute to Military Families Game will take place Saturday, April 8. Prior to the game, they will have a veterans resource fair in their Skyline Room, across Lunt Ave. from the Allstate Arena/Rosemont Horizon. The announcement for free tickets to the fair and the game will be forthcoming. Those who have a problem with pyrotechnics and flame throwers should wait in the foyer during the pregame show. If you have been to their games or have watched them on TV, you know what I am referring to.
- 8. We are working through the JBVAMC Veterans and Family Advisory Council to get the computer room reopened. It was closed during the PANdemIC. It is now open, but not for veterans, so if this room will not be reopened for vets, then we feel that another facility should replace it. Not everyone has home internet, and out of those who do, not everyone has a printer. This facility had been of great value to those who needed to work on resumes, job applications, VA forms, etc.