

DRAFT RESOLUTION 20-13

SUBJECT: Expand Eligibility for VA Family Caregiver Program

SOURCE: KS, AK, IN, IL, MO, OH, ND, CT, WI, DC, PA, NC, WA, MA, MI

WHEREAS, the VA's Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program provides a monthly stipend, respite care, mental and physical health care, and necessary training and certifications for caregivers of veterans who were severely injured or disabled on or after September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the fact that severely injured or disabled veterans from other eras are ineligible to participate in the Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program is inequitable; and

WHEREAS, AMVETS believes that severely disabled veterans of all eras have made tremendous sacrifices and the family members who care for them are equally deserving of recognition, assistance and support; and

WHEREAS, DoD's Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) program provides support to family caregivers of members of the military who are catastrophically disabled whether through injury or illness, the VA's Family Caregiver Program excludes veterans who require home care services as a result of serious illness; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that AMVETS urges Congress to expand eligibility for the VA Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program to include veterans of all eras; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AMVETS urges Congress to fully align the VA and DoD assistance programs by including in its eligibility criteria veterans who require caregiver services as a result of a serious illness incurred in the line of duty.

Committee Recommendations:

VAVS & VA Hospital and Medical Services, Rehabilitation Benefits Committee: Adopt

Floor Action: ADOPTED