

Trula Missey, Department of Missouri VFW Auxiliary
Legislative Chairman
100 Aldergate Dr. #27
Bonne Terre, MO 63628

573-631-6002
trula.missey@yahoo.com



LEGISLATIVE
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“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new”.
{Socrates} With the changing of the seasons, let’s start making changes for our Veterans. “There’s a certain sort of magic in life that is only manifested through change”, {Unknown}.

Let’s manifest the change of one of the many important laws that will benefit our Veterans: The Major Richard Star Act.

Understanding the Major Richard Star Act

The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 334) amends Title 10 of the U.S. Code. This act permits medically retired veterans with less than 20 years of service and combat-related injuries to receive both their full retirement pay and disability compensation. An existing offset reduces retirement pay by the amount of disability compensation received.

In part, the VFW Priority Goals, insist that: “Congress must act now to end the policy of offsetting benefits, fulfill its promises, and prevent further harm to disabled veterans. The cost of full concurrent receipt is far outweighed by the moral obligation to honor their sacrifices. The VFW calls on the 119th Congress to pass legislation that will show them their service is truly valued. Every year of delay only deepens the financial and emotional toll on these veterans who have already given so much to this country. The VFW Urges Congress to: Pass S.1032 / H.R.2102, Major Richard Star Act, either as a standalone bill or via the National Defense Authorization Act for 2026”. We as an Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars need to advocate for them and amplify to our congressman and legislators the importance of this bill, along with others. The 2026 Priority Goals are readily available at: www.vfw.org/LegislativePriorities.

The Legislative tools are behind MALTA or at vfw.org under the Advocacy section. Sign others up for Action Corps Weekly and “PUSH THE BUTTON”. You + 2 = AMPLIFIED ADVOCACY. Find 2 new people to act and help. Email and call your lawmakers, then post a thank you message to those that support Veteran issues. Show the gratitude, amplify your concerns: loudly, professionally and respectfully. Tell them to “HONOR THE CONTACT”.

Use the QR codes and hashtags that are in the Legislative tools.

Don’t forget about the end of year award for the most outstanding activity and/or event to create thank you notes and cards to Veterans that include links to VFW Action Corps Weekly and/or the VFW Priority Goals. Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Must be turned in by March 31, 2026.



Let us “Light the way between Veterans’ families and legislators with a wave of Gratitude”, so we can “Be the reason a Veteran smiles today”.