

VA MISSION Act of 2018

Your Care is Our Mission

Overarching Talking Points

MISSION Act Overall

- The acronym MISSION in the MISSION Act stands for Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks.
- The MISSION Act improves VA's ability to provide high quality and timely care to Veterans who have nobly served our country.
- This legislation contains more than 50 sections intended to strengthen and improve VA's ability to serve Veterans.
- Delivering an excellent experience of care for Veterans, families, and caregivers is at the core of VA's approach to the MISSION Act.
- As we implement the MISSION Act, we are building VA into a Veteran-centered system that enhances the pride of Veterans and VA employees.

Community Care

- The MISSION Act will enhance the Veteran experience through an improved community care program that allows VA to partner with community providers to augment access to VA health care.
- The MISSION Act puts VA at the center of Veteran care to ensure Veterans receive the best care possible, whether in VA facilities or through a community provider.
- The MISSION Act ensures easy and reliable access to the best health care, when and where Veterans need it.
- The MISSION Act enhances VA's use of state-of-art facilities and cutting-edge technology.
- The MISSION Act enables Veterans to find the balance in the system that is right for them.
- VA's approach to the MISSION Act gives Veterans an opportunity to make informed health care decisions in partnership with their care teams.

Caregivers

- The MISSION Act will expand the eligibility for family members who care for Veterans, enabling them to receive compensation under the auspices of the Caregiver Support Program. Right now, that program is only available to eligible caregivers of Veterans who were injured on or after September 11, 2001.

Workforce

- The VA MISSION Act will strengthen VA's workforce by creating an education debt reduction program and improved flexibility for providing recruitment bonuses.
- The VA MISSION Act allows for relocation opportunities and employee satisfaction avenues to ensure VA is able to retain the highest quality medical professionals.
- Under the MISSION Act, VA will pilot a scholarship program for eligible Veterans to receive medical training in return for serving in a VA hospital or clinic for four years.
- The MISSION Act will help strengthen VA's Infrastructure: With VA buildings averaging nearly 60 or more years old, the MISSION Act will assess the state of these buildings and help determine what is needed to modernize them.