



## **Visit your elected officials during August recess**

Air Force Sergeants Association

Congress is about to go into its month-long August recess. The fact that the FY 2016 NDAA will probably not be passed by Congress before that recess is both bad and good. "Bad" because many hoped to get a finished bill up to the President before the end of the fiscal year. "Good" because it will give our members opportunities to speak directly to their elected officials during the August recess. When you speak to them, let them know where you, as a voter, stand on issues such as the January 2016 military pay raise; the proposal to reduce the value of BAH even further and to severely cut it for military couples; and the call to slash commissary funding.

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## **Visit your legislators in August**

Military Officers Association of America

During the month of August, most elected officials return to their home districts to meet with constituents. This is a great opportunity for you as a MOAA member to visit your elected officials' offices and advise them of your and MOAA's concerns on important matters. To assist you in preparing for these meetings, we've developed fact sheets and talking points on three key issues.

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## **Empty promises mean empty wallets for military families**

National Military Family Association

Our United States all-voluntary military is still looking for men and women ready to serve and protect! Congress offers a competitive compensation package for your sacrifice, like a "marriage penalty" BAH cut for dual-military families, increased commissary prices, and capped pay raises below your private sector counterparts. Sound enticing? Find out what else your country's leaders think your military family deserves for your selfless call-to-serve, and how NMFA is fighting to stand against these injustices.

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## **House passes cost of living adjustment for veterans' benefits**

The Hill

The House approved legislation on Tuesday that would increase rates of benefit compensation for veterans with disabilities caused by their military service. "Many disabled veterans and their families depend on VA benefits to pay for their housing, their food, and other necessities. Therefore, it is absolutely essential that VA benefits keep pace with the rate of inflation so that our nation's heroes are able to make ends meet," said House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller (R-Fla.).

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## **What's in the emergency bill to help fund Veterans Affairs Department**

The Associated Press via Army Times

A three-month highway spending bill scheduled for a vote Wednesday in the House includes nearly \$3.4 billion to fill a budget hole that the Department of Veterans Affairs claims would force it to close hospitals and clinics nationwide. Lawmakers from both parties said the spending was needed even as they complained about the VA's failure to anticipate the problem.

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## Department of Defense issues final military lending act rule

Department of Defense News

After nearly three years of study, the Department of Defense issued the final Military Lending Act (MLA) rule. The MLA better protects our service men and women from predatory credit practices by expanding financial protections provided to service members, and helping ensure military families receive the consumer protections they deserve. These actions build on the president's announcement during a speech at the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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