

Advocates call for careful reforms but blast efforts to cut funding, raise prices, reduce or eliminate commissary and exchanges benefits

The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits

Patrick Nixon, President of the American Logistics Association and Former Director of DeCA, spoke today to the House Armed Services Committee. He told the Subcommittee on Personnel, "[...] that a coherent plan and impact analysis was needed to precede any consideration of funding reductions or other harmful changes to the benefit." ALA, SaveOurBenefit, and our partners are focused on protecting the EARNED benefits of our service members, veterans, retirees, survivors, and their families. Watch [Testimony](#). Read Mr. Nixon's [Statement](#) and ALA [Press Release](#). Join [SaveOurBenefit](#) today! [READ MORE](#)

Will 2016 be the year of commissary reform?

Stars and Stripes

Last year was mostly a bust for lawmakers on Capitol Hill hoping to overhaul military commissaries, one of servicemembers' oldest and most cherished benefits, though 2016 kicks off with new momentum and proposals. Advocacy groups are already warning Congress to move with caution and that changes could result in shoppers abandoning the stores. They told lawmakers during a hearing called by Rep. Joe Heck, R-Nev., who chairs an Armed Services subcommittee, to beware of variable pricing and DECA-labeled products. "This becomes a slippery slope," said Tom Gordy, president of the Armed Forces Marketing Council, a group that lobbies for commissaries and exchange stores. [READ MORE](#)

MOAA urges Congress to preserve commissary benefit

Military Officers Association of America

"The commissary is more than just a grocery store; it is a benefit that supplements income for the currently serving, wounded warriors, widows and military retirees, at a price that would be far more costly to DoD if paid in monetary compensation," stated Brooke Goldberg, MOAA Deputy Director for Government Relations before the House Armed Services military personnel subcommittee. Goldberg testified on behalf of MOAA and The Military Coalition (TMC). [Read](#) TMC's full testimony. [READ MORE](#)

Grocery shopping shouldn't be stressful: Saving the benefit for military families

National Military Family Association

Commissaries are, once again, in the hot seat and NMFA took to the Hill January 13 to plead the case for military families. "The commissary provides all military families with the assurance they can put food on the table at a reasonable cost regardless of their location," said Eileen Huck, NMFA Government Relations Deputy Director. All changes should be made with extreme caution and should minimize any impact on our service members and the families who stand behind them. "All changes need to be clear to families." [Read](#) NMFA's full testimony. [READ MORE](#)