

# LEGISLATIVE

January 2025

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Here is a **LEGISLATION UPDATE!** I hope to see you in Pierre 12-13 January 2025 for our legislative conference.

## **Landmark Legislation Passed:**

The Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act

We are pleased to announce the passage of the **Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act**. After months of negotiation, this legislation passed the Senate and House and is now headed to the President's desk to be signed into law.

This bill is a bicameral, bipartisan veterans' legislative package for the 118th Congress and includes provisions to modernize the delivery of healthcare, benefits, and services at the Department of Veterans Affairs, expand access to job training and employment opportunities, address veteran homelessness and strengthen mental health services for our nation's ill and injured veterans. The legislative package will also expand care options for aging veterans, improve access to mental healthcare for veteran caregivers, strengthen home and community care options and streamline the disability claims process.

This legislation is a significant step in helping to keep the promises made to those who have served. We want to personally thank our supporters who, through the DAV Commander's Action Network, sent nearly 90,000 email messages to lawmakers urging them to get the job done and pass this crucial legislation before the close of the 118th Congress. Because of your dedication and advocacy efforts, we can celebrate this important victory for veterans!