

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

March 2026

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

PASS THE MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT

Under current law, only veterans with 20 years of service and a disability rating of at least 50 percent can collect both military retirement and disability pay. Veterans with less than 20 years of service who were injured in action and discharged under Chapter 61 should be entitled to their full VA disability as well as their pension.

“Veterans injured in service should not be forced to choose which part of their service counts. All of it counts.” (Austin, Army Combat Medic)

The VFW and Auxiliary support the passage of H.R. 2102. Contact our National Legislators and urge them to sign on as cosponsors and pass this Act.

Updates will be available on VFW Action Corps and sdlegislature.gov for State Bills. Please review current and future Bills that may be submitted.

REMINDER: Year End Reports are due to me by April 15th.

Respectively Submitted,

Becky Hafner

301 West Cherry Street

Parkston, SD 57366

605-661-4484 /// tbmhafner@santel.net