



**DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
P.O. BOX 6687, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112-0687**

### **January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 MCL PA Legislation Report**

\*Included in my first Legislative Report as MCL PA, Legislative Advisor are bills at the state and national levels which membership needs to be appraised of, information I found in the DMVA Digest which may be of help to our women veterans, and an update from George Leone, Chair and President of Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps. Comments following a \* are my own.

## **H.R. 6362, the Protecting Benefits for Disabled Veterans Act**

When a veteran's disability is rated less than a total 100% evaluation, but he or she is unable to obtain or maintain substantial gainful employment, VA regulations allow the veteran to apply for Total Disability Based on Individual Unemployability (TDIU). It is based on the severity of the individual veteran's unique disability picture and its impact on the veteran's ability to obtain and maintain substantial gainful employment. Generally, the veteran must have a single disability rated at 60% or a combined evaluation of 70% to be eligible for TDIU.

In recent years, reducing or limiting TDIU has been the focus of many Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reports as a deficit reduction measure. In December 2018, it was suggested to terminate and cutoff TDIU benefits at the age of 65, and in reports in December 2020 and December 2022, CBO recommended to restrict TDIU once a veteran reaches the age of 67.

**H.R. 6362, the Protecting Benefits for Disabled Veterans Act, would provide additional protections for TDIU and prohibit the VA from considering the age of the veteran or their eligibility to any retirement benefit, including Social Security, in making such determinations.**

DAV strongly supports H.R. 6362, as it would ensure the availability of TDIU for all veterans regardless of age or receipt of any other earned federal benefits. Consistent with DAV Resolution No. 445, DAV supports the protection of TDIU as it is not a retirement or pension program.



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We are calling on all DAV members and supporters to contact their elected representatives and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 6362 to protect veterans and their families now and in the future from these harmful proposals. Thank you for all you do for America's veterans and their families.

**\*We need to stop the D.O.B. (Department of Budget) and other groups from cutting or eliminating benefits that many disabled/retired veterans need for them and their families. Our benefits are not retirement funds! For my retired veteran friends, we saw an increase in their cost for Tri Care. Stop this erosion now!!**

**\*Please call and/or email your politicians in Washington and tell them to keep their hands off benefits we have earned. Support H.R. 6362!**

\*I have included a very recent email to me from George Leone. I also spoke to Pat Daily (Tun Taven) and he will have an update when he comes to our March 16<sup>th</sup> MCL meeting. The Tun Tavern and Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps projects while intertwined **need a great deal of financial help and assistance!** As Marines, we know nothing short of complete success is acceptable.

Thanks, James! Here are our updated summary and brochure. The successful Navy & Marine Corps Week and Gala, and the Navy Secretary's announcement of the 2025 Navy & Marine Corps 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration in Philadelphia, are described at <https://www.homecoming250.org/secretary-of-the-navys-announcement/>. Feel free to distribute them.

We are again approaching the New Jersey Marine Corps League to get them to follow your lead. **Can the Department of Pennsylvania put in a good word with Commander Waluk and/or join him to ask the national Marine Corps League to come on board? With the Secretary's announcement, now seems like a good time.**

Thanks for all your help! – George

George S. Leone



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\*George Leone and Pat Daily (Tun Tavern) will be in attendance at our March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 MCL meeting.

## **Pennsylvania Women Veterans Magazine:**

Veteran information is often difficult to find in just one location. So, we are utilizing an annual periodical of benefits and resources for women veterans and those who are transitioning out of the military.

[Read More](#)

## **Women Veterans, VA May Surprise You:**

Women veterans, you may be surprised to learn about all VA has to offer. If you haven't checked out VA in a while, things have changed. We recognize each of you are unique and your health care needs are not "one-size-fits-all." That's why VA continues to expand its services, so we can provide you with the best care possible to better fit your needs.

[Read More](#)

## **Pennycuick Measure Expanding Disabled Veteran Property Tax Relief Approved by Committee**

"My legislation that would allow more disabled veterans to receive property tax relief was approved by the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee."

"[\*\*Senate Bill 194\*\*](#) would exclude federal VA Aid and Attendance benefits as income when calculating eligibility for Pennsylvania's 100% Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption. VA Aid and Attendance benefits provide monthly



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