



Good afternoon AMVETS Family,

In general, we are expecting a quiet two weeks on Capitol Hill as Congress is in recess for an Easter Holiday work session. VA Secretary McDonough defended the President's proposed VA Budget on Capitol Hill last week. Numerous tough questions regarding the rising cost of VA healthcare, the VA's proposal to close numerous facilities across the country, the claims backlog, and various other pressing matters. We expect the Senate to hold a similar hearing in the next month or so and you can [watch that hearing HERE](#).

In case you missed it, Executive Director, Joe Chenelly, testified recently in front of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. The hearing was entitled: "Helping Veterans Thrive: The Importance of Peer Support In Preventing Domestic Violent Extremism. [Check out the summary that Miles Migliara put together HERE](#).

Both the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee currently have no hearings upcoming or scheduled.

-Paul Shipley, AMVETS National Third Vice Commander

News Driving the Week

- Veterans Affairs [Secretary Denis McDonough acknowledged that he is “frustrated”](#) with inconsistency in how medical appointment wait time data is calculated and recorded within the department’s health care systems, and promised changes on the issue later this year.

During testimony before the House Appropriations Committee this week, McDonough said he is concerned about delivering accurate information on appointment timeliness to veterans as they seek to resume care that was deferred or canceled in recent years.

“If you look at our average wait times across the system, they’re good, but it’s a big system and we’re coming out of a pandemic,” he said. “So I fear that there are outliers where people are waiting too long.”

- **Whoa...** [Read this multi-part series that has the Pentagon scrambling...](#) from The War Horse’s Founder Thomas Brennan...

The Marine Corps’ incestuous justice system operates on different levels based on rank and includes a notebook used to track officers’ bad conduct. Repeatedly, the Marine generals and attorneys whose wrongdoings have been documented in the Corps’ own records have been promoted and retired with full military benefits.

- Veterans Affairs [officials expect calls to the Veterans Crisis Line to increase by as much as 150%](#) after a new three-digit dialing code for suicide prevention services starts operating this July.

That would mean hundreds of thousands more veterans getting emergency help during mental health crises, provided department officials can keep up with the demand.

- New York Times OPINION: [My Advice for American Veterans Who Want to Get on a Plane to Ukraine](#)

Upcoming Events

Easter!

The Nimitz Group
Washington, DC
justin@thenimitzgroup.com
thenimitzgroup.com

