

**From:** dbrown80@yahoo.com,  
**To:** rtfishin@aol.com,  
**Subject:** Fw: AMVETS Post Election Update  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 17, 2022 6:42 pm

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Please update. Thank you. Happy Thanksgiving.

Doug

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** AMVETS Legislative Team <justin@thenimitzgroup.com>  
**To:** "dbrown80@yahoo.com" <dbrown80@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 08:45:41 PM EST  
**Subject:** AMVETS Post Election Update



Good evening AMVETS Family,

The House and Senate are both in session following a bit of a surprising election. What was largely expected to be a "Red Wave," with the possibility of a Senate flip, has turned into Republicans barely winning enough seats to flip the House. As of this writing, the Associated Press has the Republicans at just one seat shy of wresting control of the House of Representatives. Democrats will maintain the majority in the Senate.

All in all, a pretty boring election as it relates to the House and Senate Veteran Affairs committees. No Senators on SVAC lost their seats and if Representative Mike Levin maintains his seat, looks likely, only one member, Elaine Luria will have lost in the general election. For some perspective 2010 resulted in all Democrats on HVAC other than 3 losing their seats (Corrine Brown, Mike Michaud, and Tim Walz). Major wave elections

tend to disproportionately affect HVAC as they have historically had a lot of freshman members that have tended toward swing districts as well as districts with a high proportion of veterans.

In 2010, there was a net R gain of 63 seats in the house and 6 R seats in the Senate. This election clearly doesn't even begin to approach that. Nonetheless, it is looking like a narrow R majority, which will still change things up significantly for HVAC. Additionally with the loss of Rep Elaine Luria, the lead Dem seat on DAMA is open. Also, we can expect a fair amount of shake-up in membership of the committee regardless as most would not argue HVAC as a final destination committee of choice, unfortunately... This will especially hold true for rank and file members that are not offered leadership positions on HVAC via their subcommittee.

What that means for the AMVETS Legislative Team, is a lot of new members are likely incoming with a house flip, one-half of Democratic HVAC Staff will lose their positions, and Republicans will double the size of their Committee staffs as they take lead of the Committee.

With high regard,

-Paul Shipley, AMVETS National Third Vice Commander

### **HVAC-R**

- ✓ Mike Bost IL-12
- ✓ Jack Bergman MI-01
- ✓ Jim Banks IN-03
- ✓ Chip Roy TX-21
- ✓ Tracey Mann KS-01
- ✓ Barry Moore AL-02
- ✓ Nancy Mace SC-01
- 🗨️ Madison Cawthorn NC-11 (Was beat by Chuck Edwards in the primary, who also won the general election)
- ✓ Troy Nehls TX-22
- ✓ Matt Rosendale MT
- ✓ Mariannette Miller-Meeks IA-02
- ✓ Jake Ellzey TX-06

## HVAC-D

- ✓ Mark Takano CA-39
- ✓ Julia Brownley CA-26
- 👉 Conor Lamb PA-17 **\*\*Lost Senate Primary Bid\*\***
- ? Mike Levin CA-49 (Mike leading 52.5% to 47.5% with 86% reporting)
- ✓ Chris Pappas. NH-01
- 👉 Elaine Luria VA-02 (Lost to Jen Kiggans, this district has historically had it's freshman placed on HVAC (Glenn Nye, Scott Taylor, Elaine Luria)
- ✓ Lauren Underwood IL-14
- ✓ Colin Allred TX-32
- ✓ Frank Mrvan IN-01
- ✓ Lois Frankel FL-21
- ✓ Elissa Slotkin MI-08
- ✓ David Trone MD-06
- ✓ Ruben Gallego AZ-03
- ✓ Raul Ruiz CA-25
- ✓ Marcy Kaptur OH-09
- ✓ Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick FL-20

## SVAC-D

- ✓ Senator Patty Murray
- ✓ Richard Blumenthal
- ✓ Maggie Hassan

## SVAC-R

- ✓ Senator Jerry Moran
- ✓ Senator John Boozman



The Commemorative Air Force on Monday released the names of the six flight crew members who were killed when a P-63 Kingcobra collided with a B-17 Flying Fortress at the CAF's Wings Over Dallas airshow on Saturday. Courtesy: Commemorative Air Force

## News Driving the Week

\*\* Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough said he expects to see significant progress soon in efforts to reduce homelessness and suicide among veterans, despite the complexity and long-term challenges of both issues.

[In a wide-ranging interview with Military Times just before Veterans Day,](#)

McDonough said department leaders are pleased with recent progress on both issues, two of the top policy focus areas for VA staff over the last decade.

But he also noted that the recent improvements are not enough, and veterans cannot wait decades for the problems to be resolved.

In September, VA researchers announced that the number of veterans suicides in America fell to fewer than 17 a day in 2020 ([a number contested by Operation Deep Dive](#)), the lowest rate since 2016. The total number of veterans who took their own life was down nearly 10% from 2018 to 2020, a decrease which they attributed to more mental health resources and intervention programs for veterans.

\*\* More than one-quarter of veterans are struggling to afford basic costs of living, and Black veterans are struggling more than white veterans.

[That's the picture of a pair of studies released recently paint of veterans' financial status.](#) Although the studies show disparity based on race in the veteran community, veterans as a whole are doing better financially than the general population.

\*\* The defense authorization bill is expected to be considered this week.

\*\* [The number of veterans elected to Congress will increase next session.](#) only the third time that has happened in the past five decades.

As of Wednesday afternoon, 79 veterans had won House or Senate races in the congressional midterm elections. Another 12 veterans currently serving in the Senate were not up for reelection this year. One undecided race — the New York 22nd congressional district — features two veterans running against each other.

That's a total of 92 veterans who will serve in the 118th Congress when it convenes in January, one more than at the start of the 117th Congress two years ago. And with more than 20 congressional races still undecided, the number could rise even higher in coming days, perhaps approaching 100 veterans.

\*\* The Commemorative Air Force on Monday released the names of all six flight crew members who were killed when a P-63 Kingcobra collided with a B-17 Flying Fortress at the CAF's Wings Over Dallas air show on Saturday.

[The five members of the B-17 flight crew were](#) Terry Barker and Leonard "Len" Root, both of Keller; Dan Ragan, of Dallas; Curtis "Curt" Rowe, of Hilliard, Ohio; and Kevin "K5" Michels, of Austin. The P-63 was flown by Craig Hutain, who was from the Houston area.

## Hearings and Events on the Hill

Wednesday November 16th

3 PM  
Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

Hearing on the Department of Veterans  
Affairs Implementation of the SFC Heath  
Robinson Honoring our PACT Act  
[Watch it HERE](#)



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