

9/9/2003 Moran Supports Disabled and Retired Veterans

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Urges Administration to Support Concurrent Receipt

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran, a member of the House Subcommittee on Veterans Health, today urged Administration officials to allow veterans with service-related disabilities to receive both their military retired pay and veterans disability compensation.

"Many of our veterans are not able to collect their retirement pay and disability benefits concurrently," Moran said. "Today, as hundreds of thousands more men and women work to defend our country, we should not send them the message that, if they get hurt while in the service, they will have to sacrifice part or all of their compensation."

Under current law, a retired, disabled veteran must deduct from his retirement pay, dollar for dollar, the amount of compensation received for a disability. The result is that many disabled military retirees pay for their own disability benefits from their retirement checks.

Moran is continuing his efforts to see full concurrent receipt enacted. Last year, Moran helped pass legislation that would give people with 60% or greater disability the opportunity to receive concurrent receipt. However, progress has stalled on the issue. Moran and other supporters of concurrent receipt are working towards an agreement to bring the issue to a vote in the House.

"Veterans across our county are being shorted the funds that they have earned," Moran said. "Each year, over 550,000 disabled military retirees fail to receive their full benefits. Our veterans have fulfilled their commitment in the military - we now need to fulfill our commitment to them."

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