

DID YOU KNOW?



THE FY2022 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL (NDAA) SUPPORTED BY REP. CASTOR INCLUDES:

- ★ Military pay raise
- ★ Parental leave for service members
- ★ In-home childcare and post-natal care pilot programs
- ★ Prohibition on debt collectors' threatening practices
- ★ Extreme weather resilience of infrastructure to protect against climate change
- ★ Policies to address the scourge of extremism
- ★ Special victim prosecutors for sexual assault
- ★ Criminalization of sexual harassment and violent extremism
- ★ New program to provide direct assistance for mental health

CALL REP. CASTOR IF YOU NEED HELP:

★ (813) 871-2817

- ★ VA Claims or Appeals
- ★ Medals Awarded During Service
- ★ GI Bill for the 21st Century

VETERANS CRISIS SUPPORT LINES:

- ★ (800) 273-8255
- ★ (844) MyFLVet (693-5838)

CONSTITUENT CORNER

Dear Rep. Castor,
 We want to extend our gratitude to you and your office for pursuing my mom's AID = Attendance Benefits that she is rightfully entitled to from my Dad's service during the Korean War conflict. I've pursued her benefits since 2018, but dealing with the VA's process was a hurdle. Your team showed the decision makers at the VA what is right and got mom her benefits. I know my dad would be so happy with the work your office did to make this happen. My mom has dementia, but was very happy when she heard the great news. Again, thank you for the work you do as our family is an immediate observer to the outcome.

-Martin Family

CALL REP. CASTOR FOR ASSISTANCE: (813) 871-2817

Kathy Castor
M.C.
Prsrnt Std

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INSIDE: Important Resources for Service Members, Military Families and Veterans.

Paid for with official funds from the office of Representative Kathy Castor.

Here to Serve Those Who Serve Us



From Representative Kathy Castor

Working to Support Military Families and
 Ensure Veterans Receive the Benefits They Have Earned



Representative Kathy Castor

“I am here to serve you.”



Dear Neighbor,

Thank you to our military service members, veterans and families for your service to America. My team and I are here to advocate and support you. In Tampa, we are rich with men and women who have worn the uniform, and our community values your service.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Air Force Caucus and Special Operations Forces Caucus in Congress, I work to ensure that our local service members are supported every day and have the tools they need to keep our country safe.

This resource guide provides important information and updates on federal issues that impact military families and veterans directly.

I encourage you to reach out to me and my team on matters related to veterans and military families - and of course Social Security, IRS and other federal issues at (813) 871-2817 or Castor.House.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathy Castor



FOR OUR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND FAMILIES

★ MODERNIZING THE MISSIONS AT MACDILL AFB

Together with local leaders, Kathy is spearheading efforts to bring the next generation of air refueling and mobility aircraft to MacDill. Kathy works to ensure U.S. Central Command and U.S. SOCOM the support they need for mission modernization, especially cyber security.

★ PAY RAISE, HEALTH CARE, & PAID LEAVE

Kathy voted for a 2.7% pay raise for our troops and DoD civilians and increased health and mental health services, including new resources to mitigate undiagnosed, untreated traumatic brain injuries and PTSD for our special forces. She also voted to increase paid family and medical leave to 12 weeks after birth or adoption of a child.

★ MODERN HOUSING

After mold was discovered in on base housing, Kathy worked to secure \$116.2 million in funding to ensure healthy and safe military housing and construct new family housing, childcare centers, and build and retrofit VA hospitals and clinics.

★ SEXUAL ASSAULT & SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual assault and harassment in the military demands action, so Kathy voted to reform the military justice system, remove commanders from such cases and require independent military prosecutors who are specially trained to conduct investigations. She also worked to direct military judges to issue protective orders for service members and families experiencing intimate partner violence.

FOR OUR VETERANS

★ IMPROVING TAMPA'S JAMES A. HALEY VETERANS HOSPITAL

The Tampa James A. Haley hospital and clinics are some of the busiest in the nation, servicing over 90,000 veterans. To ensure veterans at Haley get the highest quality health care available, Kathy secured \$148 million for the construction of a new bed tower addition, with modern amenities. Nearing completion, Haley will feature approximately 100 new single patient rooms and 40 intensive care unit beds.

★ AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN: REDUCE THE CLAIMS BACKLOG

The American Rescue Plan provided funds to expedite the claims and appeals processing to reduce backlogs caused by COVID-19 and get veterans the benefits they have earned. Kathy worked to prohibit copayments for medical care for veterans during the pandemic and to expand staffing and services for suicide prevention, women's health, enhancements for VA homelessness programs, and telehealth expansion.

★ TACKLING MENTAL HEALTH AND ENHANCED PREVENTION

Kathy voted to extend critical VA programs to improve veterans' access to mental health care and to support and expand Hillsborough's innovative Veterans Treatment Court. With too many of our veterans in crisis, Kathy also voted to strengthen suicide prevention and response efforts.



(813) 871-2817

CASTOR.HOUSE.GOV