

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

REPUBLICANS | RANKING MEMBER MIKE BOST

For the second time this year, Democrats in D.C. used a fundamentally flawed, inflexible, rushed, and partisan reconciliation process to send reconciliation instructions to the House V.A. Committee.

Reconciliation may be the answer to weak Democrat control in Washington, but it is certainly not the answer for our country, our economy, and our veterans.

In the last two years and months, V.A. has received \$243.3 billion, the largest base budget V.A. has ever had, and nearly \$40 billion in COVID-relief, tens of billions of which is leftover. Handing V.A. an extra \$5 billion blank check on top of that is unnecessary and wasteful.

Republicans acted on a bipartisan basis in 2018 to fix V.A.'s infrastructure issues in the AIR Act. Making significant infrastructure investments outside of the process already in law to update and realign V.A. medical facilities is a waste of time and taxpayer dollars.

Most importantly, the Biden Administration's utter failure in Afghanistan has caused immense suffering among veterans and their families, particularly the veterans who served there and the Gold Star Families who lost loved ones there.

Republicans have been calling on the V.A. Committee to act to ensure veterans and families have what they need to heal and know that their service and sacrifices were not in vain. It is a deep shame that rather than focusing on the veterans and families who are struggling, Democrats on the House V.A. Committee instead focused on reckless spending and liberal wish lists by voting against Republican amendments to:

- ✓ ***Support veterans and families suffering from the crisis in Afghanistan***
- ✓ ***Make smart investments in VA infrastructure***
- ✓ ***Save taxpayer dollars***

Specifically, Democrats voted against:

- Additional funding for the Veterans Crisis Line and V.A. counseling centers;
- Additional funding for student veterans and veterans' health care
- Expanding care to toxic-exposed veterans
- Expanding benefits to seriously disabled veterans
- Requiring V.A. to purchase American-made goods and materials
- Investing in mobile infrastructure
- Aligning infrastructure funding with existing infrastructure efforts
- Requiring V.A. to be transparent and accountable to taxpayers and veterans on how V.A. spends their hard-earned money

Read more [HERE](#).