
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 621 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, ROZZI, JOZWIAK, GILLEN, SAYLOR,
KINSEY, PASHINSKI, DRISCOLL, LONGIETTI, D. COSTA,
SCHLOSSBERG, V. BROWN, BERNSTINE, BIZZARRO, McNEILL AND
WARREN, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to provide all veterans
2 access to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
3 Caregiver Support Program.

4 WHEREAS, There are nearly 900,000 veteran residents of this
5 Commonwealth who have served in the United States Armed Forces,
6 including approximately 615,000 veterans who served prior to
7 September 11, 2001; and

8 WHEREAS, Our veteran population deserves the best available
9 care and resources, including the ability to receive that care
10 at home from a loved one with the appropriate training to assist
11 them with their personal care needs and instrumental activities
12 of daily living; and

13 WHEREAS, The role of a caregiver requires dedication,
14 substantial time and effort to ensure the health and well-being
15 of our veterans; and

16 WHEREAS, Such dedication can take an emotional and physical
17 toll on the caregiver, including the ability for caregivers to

1 maintain a separate livelihood; and

2 WHEREAS, On May 5, 2010, the United States marked the
3 investment and support needed by family caregivers of post-9/11
4 veterans by creating the United States Department of Veterans
5 Affairs Caregiver Support Program; and

6 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs
7 Caregiver Support Program provides critical support services and
8 benefits that have a positive impact on a caregiver's ability to
9 care for a veteran; and

10 WHEREAS, Current law excludes pre-9/11 veterans from
11 participating in the United States Department of Veterans
12 Affairs Caregiver Support Program; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the RAND Corporation, of the 5.5
14 million military caregivers in the United States, only 19.6% are
15 post-9/11 veterans, leaving a large population of caregivers
16 without assistance; and

17 WHEREAS, An expansion of the United States Department of
18 Veterans Affairs Caregiver Support Program would create an
19 equitable system and access for all service-era veterans; and

20 WHEREAS, The benefits and services available for the family
21 caregivers of post-9/11 era veterans should be made available to
22 veterans of all service eras; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
24 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
25 States to responsibly grant access to the United States
26 Department of Veterans Affairs Caregiver Support Program to all
27 service-era veterans and direct that copies of this resolution
28 be transmitted to the President of the United States, the
29 Secretary of Veterans Affairs and to each member of Congress
30 from Pennsylvania.