

VSO Liaison Stand-Up Brief
June 14, 2013

Upcoming Events:

Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans	14 Jun
AUSA Mission Command Symposium	17 Jun
Veterans Small Business Forum	18 Jun
VSO Host VHA NLC Reception	18 Jun
Concern Veterans for America "Reforming Veterans Affairs" Breakfast	20 Jun
USB/Service Partner Quarterly Meeting	20 Jun
American Gold Star Mothers Convention	21 – 23 Jun

Issues:

- No significant issues

Topic of Interest:

- **VSO's / MSO's:** Today, VSO's will be attending a bi-weekly meeting and discuss the new version of the Standardized Notice of Disagreement Form. They will also get a demonstration of VBMS which will be installed at the Board of Veterans Appeals.

Texas Passes Cold War Medal, New Jersey Still Debating
Texas H.B. 402 was passed by the House on April 3, 2013 Yeas 147, Nays 0. The bill was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2013 Yeas 31, Nays 0.

The bill will be effective Sept. 1, 2013.

So if you served in the Texas National Guard or Texas State Guard between Sept. 2, 1945 and Dec. 29, 1991 can apply to the adjutant general's department. Veterans will have to pay the cost of the medal. At this time there is no information available as to just what that cost will be.

So now Texas, Louisiana and Alaska have authorized a medal/ribbon for Cold War Service.

Lets all keep contacting your elected officials, both state and federal to get this medal issued to all who served.

There is no further word on the state of New Jersey House Bill A-3828 and in the Senate an identical bill S2589

New Jersey estimates that there are 122,000 Cold War Veterans and the cost would be about 1.9 million dollars. That is a cost of \$15.00 per medal and would require two additional staff members with salary of \$35,000 each per year. The state does not expect that all

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veterans would apply and that not all who do apply would do so in the first year.

So that cost would be spread over several years.

That is exactly what we have been telling DoD, the costs would be spread over several years. Even the Congressional Budget Office has stated the same theme, it would not be an all at once cost and would take several years to have the medal issued to all veterans.

From News Clips:

- No significant news clips

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Pending – Accepted Invitations / Requests:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Korean War 60 th Meeting (CoS)	Washington		June	Pending
Bowlers to Veterans Link	Reno, NV		2 May or	Regret
	Las Vegas, NV	TBD	26 Jun	Pending
PVA Golf Open (either open or dinner)	Potomac Falls, VA		3 Jun	Pending
National Association County Ser. Off.	Reno, NV		2 – 6 Jun	Regret
DAV Retirement (Art Wilson) Reception	Washington, DC	1730	11 Jun	Regret
DAR (National Defense Night)	Washington, DC	1900	28 Jun	Regret
Wheelchair Games (PVA Invite)	Tampa, FL	1800	12 Jul	Pending
PVA PAVE Opening	VAMC Tampa, FL	1030	12 Jul	Regret
American GI Forum	Denver, CO	TBD	24 Jul	Regret
VFW National Convention	Louisville, KY	0900	23 Jul	Pending
60th Anniversary of the Korean War	Washington, DC	0955	27 Jul	Pending
AMVETS National Convention	Sparks NV	1230	31 Jul	Accepted
MOPH National Convention	Rogers AR	1830	6 Aug	Accepted
ROA National Convention	Washington, DC	AM	8 Aug	Regret
DAV National Convention	Orlando, FL	0830	10 Aug	Accepted
PVA National Convention	Long Beach, CA	0915	13 Aug	Accepted
MOWW, National Convention	Dallas, TX	1900	17 Aug	Regret – working on courtesy call
Jewish War Veterans	Richmond, VA	TBD	18 Aug	Regret
Blinded Veterans Assocaition	Spokane, WA	0830	21 Aug	Accepted
American Legion Dinner (Black Tie)	Houston, TX	1800	27 Aug	Pending
American Legion National Convention	Houston, TX	0935	28 Aug	Accepted
Rutgers – The State University	New Jersey		Pending	Pending

Pending Annual Requests for Presidential Letters:

(Known requests at WH for letters)

<u>Organizations</u>	<u>Dates Requested by</u>
Non Commissioned Officers Association	June 1
Veterans of Foreign Wars	June 1
AMVETS	July 1
Catholic War Veterans	July 1
TREA: The Enlisted Association	July 5
Marine Corps League	July 8
Vietnam Veterans of America	July 15

Pending Annual Requests for Secretary Letters:

<u>Organizations</u>	<u>Date Requested by</u>
Non Commissioned Officers Association	June 1 (completed)
AMVETS	July 1 (completed)
Catholic War Veterans	July 1 (completed)