

3568 RECOMMENDATIONS OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS, 1968

(RESOLUTION No. 434, LEGISLATIVE)

ESTABLISH A COURT OF VETERANS APPEALS

Whereas, a Veterans Appeals Court would afford many veterans a new approach to their VA claims problems which date back into the past for a period of many discouraging years, during which many veterans feel they received less than fair and impartial decisions by the VA, and

Whereas, a review of these claims, by this Court of Veterans Appeals, would in all probability provide a more objective and fair decision to both the veteran and to the Government and by so doing show these veterans who contend that they have been wronged by the VA, that the true intentions of our grateful nation are based on liberty and justice for all,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Denver, Colorado, July 31 through August 4, 1967, urge the United States Congress to establish a Court of Veterans Appeals.

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(RESOLUTION No. 449, LEGISLATIVE)

REDUCTION OF INTEREST RATE ON VA HOME LOANS

Whereas, the interest rate for GI home loans has been increased to the same rate as FHA loans, and

Whereas, the Veterans Home Loan Program should have more favorable interest rates than regular or FHA loans,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled Americans Veterans in National Convention assembled at Denver, Colorado, July 31 through August 4, 1967, does hereby request that legislation be enacted to lower the interest rate on GI home loans.

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STATEMENT OF CHARLES L. HUBER, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATION, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, BEFORE THE U.S. VETERANS' ADVISORY COMMISSION, OCTOBER 3, 1967

Mr. HUBER. Mr. Chairman, members of the Veterans' Advisory Commission. The Disabled American Veterans appreciates the opportunity of appearing before the Commission to discuss with you some very important matters in connection with benefit programs for veterans and their dependents.

Our discussion will include recommendations which were put forth by DAV officers in previous appearances before the Commission together with legislative resolutions adopted by our most recent national convention held in Denver, Colo., July 31, through August 4, 1967. Some of these recommendations and proposals, if approved, would serve to modify existing programs while other would authorize new ones.

I should like to begin our presentation by recalling that President Johnson, in his unprecedented message to the Congress on January 31, recommended a wide range of legislative proposals to remove inequities existing in the benefit programs not only for Vietnam conflict veterans, but also for veterans of America's past wars. The Congress responded promptly and favorably by passing S. 16, the Veterans Pension and Readjustment Assistance Act of 1967. This bill, endorsed by the DAV, contained a good number of the recommendations set out in the President's congressional message. As a result, the welfare of disabled war veterans and their dependents has been substantially improved. These improvements were needed and were most welcome.