

Concurrent payment of compensation and pension to certain veterans;

Dependency allowance for all veterans who are in receipt of disability compensation payments;

Entitlement to dependency and indemnity compensation for widows of deceased veterans who were rated 100-percent service-connected for 20 or more years;

Clothing allowances for veterans who, because of service-connected disabilities, wear prosthetic appliances which tend to wear out or tear their clothing;

War orphans' educational assistance benefits for children of veterans rated 50 percent or more;

Specially adapted housing for veterans with amputation of one lower and one upper extremity;

Full wartime benefits for extra-hazardous duty;

Direct admission to nursing homes; and extend beyond the 6-month period, nursing care for service-connected disabled veterans; and

Creation of a Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the U.S. Senate.

Increase the maximum amount of GI insurance from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

Mr. Chairman, bills covering most of these subjects have already been introduced, while others are presently in the drafting stage. We believe that you and the committee members will find them reasonable, meaningful, and supportable, and that they will require no extravagant or wasteful financial outlays. We earnestly hope that you will give early and favorable consideration to those bills referred specially to your committee.

At this point, Mr. Chairman, it is appropriate that I express our profound appreciation to you and the committee members for promptly reporting H.R. 4622, a bill sponsored by the DAV to insure the preservation of all disability compensation evaluations in effect for 20 or more years. The bill, approved by the House of Representatives on February 17, will serve to correct an inequity in present law by extending the 20-year protection to veterans with long-standing statutory awards in the same manner as that currently afforded veterans with conventional disability percentage ratings.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I again want to express our gratitude for giving me the opportunity to come before you and present our views on matters of vital importance to the wartime disabled, his dependents, and survivors.

You have been very patient and very responsive and we do appreciate it. I also want to take this occasion to pay special tribute to the staff members of this distinguished committee. In our opinion, no staff has served with greater devotion, greater loyalty or greater diligence, than the staff of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. To each of them I extend a warm word of thanks for the cooperation, interest, and help which they have unsparingly given us in our legislative efforts.

Mr. Chairman, at the conclusion of the hearing and with your permission I would like to submit for the record copies of our legislative resolutions adopted by our 1968 DAV national convention.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. Without objection they will be made a part of the record.

(The resolutions follow:)