

I want to welcome you to the committee, to Washington, and I want to commend you for your national office here which has always been helpful to us.

If there is any single individual who is knowledgeable concerning veterans' legislation in this country, it is Chet Huber. I commend you for having a man of this integrity and ability here representing you.

I also want to congratulate all of you for seeing fit to promote my good friend Jim Rogers from South Carolina to chaplain. This is great.

I do want to say you have a splendid statement and I will read it at my first opportunity. I want to say it has been my experience here in almost 21 years now that your great organization has always been reasonable, restrained, and positive. You do not have a negative attitude and you have accomplished much for the veterans, all veterans, not only disabled veterans, and for the American people as a whole.

I want to thank you and welcome you to this committee.

Mr. SHEIRBON. Thank you, sir.

Mr. HALEY. Thank you, Mr. Commander, for appearing here. We do have other witnesses but we will be glad to have you remain and hear them. If you feel that you must go, you are privileged to do so.

We again say to you that we always are happy to have you here with us. Many of us, I hope, will see you tonight.

Mr. SHEIRBON. Thank you very much, sir for your kind consideration.

Mr. HALEY. Thank you.

Mr. HALEY. The next witness is Wayne L. Capson, president of Paralyzed Veterans of America.

The committee will be in order so that we may hear the next witness. The time is limited here this morning.

Mr. President, we are happy to have you here this morning and you may proceed with your presentation to the committee.

STATEMENT OF WAYNE L. CAPSON, PRESIDENT, PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, ACCOMPANIED BY PETER L. LASSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT; HARRY A. SCHWEIKERT, JR., ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT; GLENN E. MAYER, PRESIDENT, VAUGHAN CHAPTER; HOWARD L. BENNETT, SECRETARY-TREASURER; RUSSELL SHERWOOD, CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER; AND DONALD H. BRODERICK, EASTERN CHAPTER, NEW YORK

Mr. CAPSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, at this point I would like to introduce a few of the members of PVA that are here. Unfortunately, some of our members from the Boston area got snowed in and could not make it.

I have here sitting on my right, Carlos Rodriguez, vice president. Sitting next to Carlos is the executive director here in our national office, Peter Lassen. On my left, from our national office, Harry Schweikert, administrative assistant. Next to him is Don Broderick from the eastern chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America. That is one of our chapters. He is executive director.