

SENATOR REID: Strengthening Our Military And Honoring Our Veterans

MILITARY AND VETERANS

Senator Reid has fought to ensure that our Armed Forces have the resources they need to meet the current and emerging challenges of the 21st century, and he has been at the forefront of initiatives to restore and maintain the readiness of our military. He has worked to secure additional funding for critical equipment needs for our active duty and National Guard and Reserve forces and to support responsible deployment cycles for troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Senator Reid has also led the effort for increased compensation and benefits for our service members and their families, retired military personnel, and veterans – including pay raises, tax cuts, and other critical support services. Under Senator Reid's leadership, the Senate put in place a comprehensive plan to care for our wounded warriors, secured billions in additional funding for the military health care system and passed a new G.I. Bill for veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. And Senator Reid has worked to improve veterans health care programs and institute reforms within the VA system.

Highlights

- ★ Senator Reid has secured hundreds of millions of dollars for Nevada's military installations.
- ★ Senator Reid successfully fought the closure of the Hawthorne Army Depot.
- ★ Senator Reid has worked to provide our troops with the protection and weaponry they need on the battlefield, including addressing dangerous National Guard equipment shortages.
- ★ Senator Reid fought for responsible deployment cycles in Iraq and Afghanistan to relieve the strain on our Armed Forces, and championed legislation to ease the hardship of involuntary mobilization for the National Guard and Reserve.
- ★ Senator Reid backed legislation to combat waste and inefficiency in defense contracting.
- ★ Senator Reid consistently worked to increase pay and benefits for our service members and their families and to expand housing options for members of the military and veterans.
- ★ Senator Reid led passage of the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill of Rights, which provided the largest education benefits since World War II.
- ★ In order to protect veterans from the rising cost of health care, Senator Reid has repeatedly worked to protect TRICARE from budget cuts.
- ★ Senator Reid secured vital funding for the Southern Nevada Veterans Complex, a 700,000 square-foot center that includes a 90-bed hospital and a 120-bed long-term care center.
- ★ Senator Reid has improved conditions for unmanned aircraft pilots at Creech Air Force Base.
- ★ Senator Reid has strived to strengthen and diversify the Armed Forces by supporting repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and by advocating for the enlistment of "DREAMers."

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