

## NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION

### TOPIC 1: ECONOMY

US Treasury yields were little changed on Thursday after the Federal Reserve kept interest rate unchanged near zero.



The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note traded near the flat line at 0.766%, while the yield on the 30-year Treasury bond was also flat at 1.537%. Yields move inversely to prices.

The central bank held its benchmark interest rate anchored in a range between 0%-0.25%, saying economic conditions remain well below pre-pandemic levels.

During a post-meeting press conference, Chairman Jerome Powell said he thinks the Fed still has plenty it can do to help the recovery.

“Is monetary policy out of power or out of ammunition? The answer to that is no, I don’t think that,” Powell said. “I think that we’re strongly committed to using these powerful tools that we have to support the economy during this difficult time for as long as needed and no one should have any doubt about that.”

Investors continue to monitor the presidential race with incoming results yet to determine which candidate would win the election. Both the incumbent Republican President Donald Trump and Democrat challenger, former Vice President Joe Biden, still had paths to gaining the 270 electoral college votes needed to win the White House.

Late Wednesday, NBC News projected that Biden was the winner in Wisconsin and Michigan, flipping them as states that Trump had won in the 2016 election. NBC News projections show Biden could need just 17 electoral college votes to win the race.

However, the Trump campaign and the Georgia Republican party filed a lawsuit Wednesday over the counting of absentee ballots in a Georgia county. This came after the campaign also filed suits to halt counting in Michigan and Pennsylvania as well.

The US also saw a record number of new coronavirus cases on Wednesday, with confirmed infections topping the 100,000 mark for the first time, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

On the data front, a total of 751,000 US workers filed for benefits last week, compared to 758,000 from the week before, the Labor Department reported Thursday. Economists surveyed by Dow Jones had been expecting 741,000. This was the third straight week that claims were below 800,000.

*[Reported by Ariel De Jesus]*

**HOUSEHOLD**

**DATA**

**Table A-5. Employment status of the civilian population 18 years and over by veteran status, period of service, and sex, not seasonally adjusted**

[Numbers in thousands]

| Employment status, veteran status, and period of service | Total      |            | Men        |            | Women      |            |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|  | Oct 2019   | Oct 2020   | Oct 2019   | Oct 2020   | Oct 2019   | Oct 2020   |
| Unemployed   | 274        | 483        | 214        | 428        | 60         | 55         |
| <b>Unemployment rate</b>                                 | <b>3.0</b> | <b>5.5</b> | <b>2.9</b> | <b>5.6</b> | <b>5.7</b> | <b>5.0</b> |

*The national unemployment rate is 6.9 percent (Oct 2020). Gulf War II veterans' unemployment rate is 6.2 percent.<sup>1</sup> Currently, the unemployment rate for Gulf War II women veterans is 3.4 percent (Down from 5.7 percent in September).*

In October 2020, the veteran unemployment rate is 6.%, down from 6.6% last month and 7.9% two months ago. The comparable non-veteran unemployment rate was 7.9% in September and 8.4% in August

**TOPIC 2: CONFERENCE CALLS**

**On Monday, November 2**, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division spoke with Mark Toal, Director, Outreach, Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Services. We discussed future collaborated opportunities for hosting career fairs in areas where veterans' unemployment rate is high. More to follow.

**On Monday, November 2**, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Conversation with National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) leadership to discuss the Risk-Based Survey pilot project and also issues faced by state approving agencies in working with VA to provide oversight in the pandemic environment.

**On Monday, November 2**, The Veterans Employment and Education Division met with Capital Bank staff regarding COVID-19 relief lending programs and received an update on upcoming events. The Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending Program was supposed to help small to mid-sized businesses; however, stringent underwriting requirements resulted in underutilization. Banks refer businesses to the Small Business Administration (SBA's) Economic Industry Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

**On Monday, November 2**, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Conversations with SVAC on pending legislation and with House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC) on veterans' issues accessing their benefits. Discussion with Legion VE&E Division leadership on the potential transition of Administration. Continued discussion with Veterans Service Organization (VSOs) of enrollment limitations imposed by VA, mainly 85/15.

***On Tuesday, November 3,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Conversations with National Association of Veterans Program Administrators (NAVPA) and VSOs on 85/15 controversy. VA still wants to count students on payment plans in the supported student's category, both causing severe compliance challenges for approved schools and potentially decreasing veteran access to quality programs. Additional research on the history of 85/15 limitation and other VA restrictions.

***On Wednesday, November 4,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division NASAA and EdCounsel meetings and updates. Discussion on meeting today with VA leadership. Working group leader meeting with GWB Institute on plans for National Task Force for Higher Education.

***On Wednesday, November 4,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Meeting with VA Education Service (J. Ruhlman, P. Dworakowski, Chris Southerland, etc.) on the RBS Pilot study and our path forward in that area. Discussion of data needed from VA and how we will work with VA as we roll out the pilot project. A discussion with the RBS team on how we will manage the data and provide that to the State Approving Agencies (SAAs.) Conversation with SVAC staff on the RBS project progress.

***On Thursday, November 5,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Meeting with RBS Project manager Woodall on challenges with the VA partnership and how best to deal with data shared by VA. A final plan for pilot project implementation. Meeting with American Legion VE&E Staff and College Recon. Brief on work being done in the Veterans Education and Employment area and College Recon's new initiatives to inform Veterans on education programs and training.

***On Thursday, November 5,*** The Veterans Employment and Education Division met with staff from the National Veterans Small Business Coalition. We discuss critical supply shortages at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and the expiration of the executive orders excusing federal agencies from federal acquisition regulations during the COVID-19 response.

***On Thursday, November 5,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division worked on a one-pager for higher education leadership and other VSOs. I also worked with RBS Project Manager to develop a plan for project roll-out and prep for VA failure to provide needed data.

***On Thursday, November 5,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division Follow up meeting with NAVPA leadership on the 85/15 controversy and VA's continued mishandling. Conversations with Director Sharpe on the Administration transfer (if occurs) and veterans' potential issues in the pandemic. Discussion with School leaders on a possible path forward on 85/15 and the challenges faced in the coming months as COVID continues.

***On Thursday, November 5,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division held a conference call with College Recon, the firm that runs The American Legion's [college search engine](#). The CEO of College Recon shared their ongoing product developments, including the potential for building a "Career Recon" tool to help veterans find employment after graduating from school.

***On Friday, November 6,*** the National Veterans Employment and Education Division GWB National Higher Education Task Force Policy Work Group convened to refine our objectives and prepare for the December convening. American Legion Education and Employment Division meeting. Meeting with Higher Education leadership in NC to discuss veterans' success and resources. Final work on 85/15 issues and further research on distance education.

*On Friday, November 6*, The Veterans Employment and Education Division counseled a Georgia based small business in federal veterans small business certification. Small Business counseling is part of the program the VE&E Division provides for veteran entrepreneurs.

*On Friday, November 6*, the National Veterans Employment and Education Division held a conference call with Director, Veterans Employment and Training Services for North Carolina, and Department Adjutant, North Carolina, Discussed the upcoming virtual career fair on November 17.

### TOPIC 3a: TRACKING LEGISLATION

**GI Bill Repair Act of 2020:** To extend to black veterans of World War II, their surviving spouses, and direct descendants eligibility for specific housing and educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

(Tracked by John Kamin)<https://archive.legion.org/handle/20.500.12203/5640>

**Resolution No.:** None on file

**Status:** Currently on hold, has not been introduced

**Homeless Veteran Coronavirus Response Act:** The bill allows VA to use existing funds for a broader range of services; authorizes the Department to collaborate with outside organizations to facilitate shelters on its properties; loosens restrictions on Grant and Per Diem (GPD) payments, and requires VA to ensure veterans participating in VA homeless programs have access to VA telehealth services.

(Tracked by Teresa Lewis)

**Resolution No. 326:** [Support Funding for Additional Housing for Homeless Veterans with Families](#)

**HR 6800, the Heroes Act:** Allows VA to provide transport and purchase food, shelter, phones, clothing, blankets and toiletry items for homeless veterans; Authorizes VA to set up temporary encampments on the grounds of VA Medical Centers to allow homeless veterans to shelter on VA parking lots temporarily; Allows VA to provide reimbursements to social service providers receiving grants for the costs of services for minor children.

(Tracked by Davy Leghorn)

**Resolution No. 324:** [Support Funding for Homeless Veterans](#)

**HR 1615:** The American Legion supports legislation that would streamline and improve the verification process for veteran-owned small businesses and veteran-owned small businesses.

<https://archive.legion.org/handle/20.500.12203/5497>

(Tracked by Davy Leghorn)

**Resolution No. 155:** [Support Verification Improvements for Veterans' Business](#)

**Status:** Passed at the 2016 National Convention.

**HR 2224:** To direct the Secretary of Labor to prioritize services to homeless veterans with dependent children in carrying out homeless veterans' reintegration programs and for other purposes.

(Tracked by Ariel De Jesus/John Kamin)

**Resolution No. 326:** [Support Funding for Additional Housing for Homeless Veterans with Families](#)

**HR 1196, Jobs for Veterans Act of 2019:** This bill allows an increased work opportunity tax credit for employers who hire veterans who have been certified as discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and who begin working for the employer after December 31, 2019, and before January 1, 2024. This increased credit is in addition to any work opportunity tax credit allowed to a veteran with a service-connected disability.

(Tracked by Ariel De Jesus/John Kamin)

[Resolution No. 354: Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program](#)

**HR 7010, Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020:** This bill significantly changes the terms of the PPP loans to be more advantageous to small businesses. Including more flexibility in applying the loan to other expenses besides payroll and benefits and extending the time frame for expending the loan.

(Tracked by Davy Leghorn)

**HR 4625:** To require education programs to be approved by the VA to abide by the Principles of Excellence to include a ban on deceptive or misleading recruiting, clear information about total costs and program requirements, accommodation for deployments, ensuring a point of contact for veterans, and not being under a punitive action by an accreditor.

(Tracked by John Kamin)

[Resolution No. 318: Ensuring the Quality of Servicemember and Veteran Student's Education at Institutions of Higher Education](#)

**HR 6957:** To direct the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs to treat a period of full-time National Guard duty, performed in response to the national emergency declared on March 13, 2020, by the President concerning COVID-19, as not shorter than 90 days.

(Tracked by John Kamin)

[Resolution No.: Currently studying for appropriate resolution.](#)

**HR 4920 Department of Veterans Affairs Contracting Preference Consistency Act of 2020:** is a bill that would allow AbilityOne companies to keep their preferential treatment at the Department of Veteran Affairs after 2016 with some compromises. The Senate initially sent it back to the House after it was passed for changes. Those changes have been reconciled and the bill cleared its last hurdle before it is sent to the White House.

**S. 2594:** To amend title 5, United States Code, to modify specific requirements concerning service and retirement for veterans' Preference for federal hiring.

(Tracked by Ariel De Jesus)

[Resolution No. 317: Enforcing Veterans' Preference Hiring Practices in Federal Civil Service](#)

**S. 3745, Coronavirus Emergency Borrower Defense (E-BD) Act:** to require the Department of Education to grant full student loan discharges to three specific emergency categories of defrauded borrowers—specifically borrowers covered by:

- (1) Department of Education findings against Corinthian.
- (2) Department of Education findings against ITT Tech; and
- (3) State attorneys general group discharge applications made before the date of enactment.

(Tracked by John Kamin)

[Resolution No. 82: Preserve Veteran and Servicemember Rights to Gainful Employment and Borrower Defense Protections](#)

## TOPIC 3b: ACTION TAKEN ON LEGISLATION

**Building Credit Access for Veterans Act:** A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to establish an automated process for obtaining alternative credit rating information and other purposes.

(Tracked by Ariel)

**Status: Draft Bill / Letter of Support submitted on October 13**

**HR 8426:** Protecting Apprenticeship Training for Veterans Act: Currently, veterans must meet a minimum number of apprenticeship hours to receive their Housing Allowance. Due to pandemic work shortages, veterans in those programs now face a reduction or suspension in their stipend. This would allow veteran apprentices who were laid off to roll over excess hours from a previous month to meet the hourly requirement.

(Tracked by John Kamin)

[Resolution: Resolution No. 25: Support and Expand Apprenticeship Opportunities for Servicemembers](#)

**Status: Letter of Support drafted**

**HR 4941: Veteran Employment Transition Act” or the “VET Act”** was sponsored by Representative Andy Kim. The last action on the bill was in the House on 12/02/2019; it was referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. The bill's goal is to improve the Transition Assistance Program. The bill would allow certain veterans' service organizations to contact veterans regarding benefits and to better inform veterans of employment opportunities. The Service groups would inform veterans of the benefits and employment opportunities with the Federal, State, and local governments. The groups inform veterans of events for in the area.

(Tracked by Ariel De Jesus)

[Resolution No. 70: Improve Transition Assistance Program](#)

**Status: Letter of Support submitted**

**HR 7003:** is a bill sponsored by Rep. Takano, Mark D-CA-41 and was introduced 05/22/2020. The bill would authorize a pilot program in the Department of Defense to enhance efforts to provide job placement assistance and related employment services directly to members of the National Guard, Reserves, and veterans of the Armed Forces. The last action on the bill was 05/22/2020 and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(Tracked by Ariel/Raymond)

[Resolution No. 81: Transition Assistance Program Employment Workshops for National Guard and Reserve Members](#)

**Status: Pending Letter of Support**

**Draft Bill:** Veterans Educational Assistance Transparency and Accountability Improvement Act, improve the GI. Bill Comparison Tool and ensures veterans, servicemembers, and their families are better informed when choosing what educational institution is best for them.

[Resolution No. 327: Support Further Assessment and Evaluation of Institutions of Higher Learning to Enable Veterans to Make Informed Education Choices](#)

**Status: Letter of Support submitted**<https://archive.legion.org/handle/20.500.12203/5643>

**Draft Bill:** JSF - To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the scope of procedural rights of members of the uniformed services concerning their employment and reemployment rights, and for other purposes.

(Tracked by Davy Leghorn)

**Status: We submitted written testimony for the July 23, 2020 hearing.**

**Draft Bill:** USERRA Protections for State Active Duty - To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend particular employment and reemployment rights to members of the National Guard who perform State active duty. Submitted written testimony to the Legislative Division.

(Tracked by Ariel De Jesus)

[Resolution No. 315: Support Employment and Reemployment Rights of National Guard and Reservists Returning from Deployment](#)

**Status: We submitted written testimony for the July 23, 2020 hearing.**

**HR 7111: Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2020:** Require the Secretary of VA to carry out a rapid retraining program that provides eligible veterans up to 12 months of retraining assistance for in-demand occupations. These 12 months of benefits would be equivalent to students and schools' payments through the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

(Tracked by John Kamin)

[Resolution No. 316: Support Employment of Veterans in the Public and Private Workforce](#)

**Status: This bill was submitted for the July 23, 2020 testimony.**

**HR 7445:** To expand eligibility for home loans from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to individual members of the Armed Forces reserve components.

[Resolution No. 329: Support Home Loan Guaranty Program](#)

**Status: This bill was submitted for the July 23, 2020 testimony.**

#### TOPIC 4: EMPLOYMENT

Does your garden need a spruce up? Or do you have a shelf that needs putting up? These are just some of the things a military charity is hoping their new handyman service will provide – with the added bonus of helping keep veterans in work.

A property maintenance company, called Building Heroes Property Services, is launching on Monday in Portsmouth and Colchester.

Property maintenance company Building Heroes Property Services set up by charity Building Heroes

It has been set up by charity Building Heroes, which was set up by Tom McLoughlin and Brendan Williams five years ago with the aim of tackling unemployment among veterans.

It currently runs training centres in Cheshire, Devon, East Midlands, Essex, Hampshire, Somerset, Tees Valley, West Sussex and Wiltshire.

At these centres, more than 1,000 veterans have graduated with new construction skills, with 400 graduating in the last academic year.

Property maintenance company Building Heroes Property Services set up by charity Building Heroes

Now they hope to put these skills to further good use, and have set up the property maintenance firm as a way to provide further employment, and raise money to put back into their centres.



Brendan said: ‘When you open your door, you want to know you can trust the person walking through it.

‘All our skilled tradespeople are military veterans; it goes without saying they are people you can rely on.

‘Arriving on time. Putting you at ease. Solving problems, whatever it takes. You can be safe in the knowledge they will do the very best job, whilst also giving you the opportunity to recognise the commitments they have made for their country.

‘When you use one of our people, to fix your tap, plaster your wall, or re-decorate your house, you are giving something back to those who were prepared to risk the ultimate sacrifice, their lives, to keep us safe.

‘And by doing so, you are also helping us continue to train up more veterans, giving them a clear pathway to a second career, and a future for them and their families.’

Tom said that as well as employing veterans, their call centres are all staffed by military spouses, who also sometimes struggle to find work due to the transient nature of their partner’s postings.

Tom added: ‘We are looking for lifelines here. We know that it is a precarious time to launch a business but we believe that it is worth taking the risk.

‘We hope that by getting work coming in, this will bring money in for veterans and their families who really need it.’

***The American Legion is encouraged to see communities coming together to assist our veterans, especially in this world of COVID, where so many veterans were affected.***

*[Reported by Ariel De Jesus]*

## **TOPIC 5: VETERAN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

U.S. Sens. Mike Rounds, R-S.D., and Kelly Loeffler, R-Georgia, recently introduced the Reducing Veteran Homelessness Act, a bill to make needed changes two programs at the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to prevent and decrease veteran homelessness.

"Every single veteran should have a place to call home," Rounds said. "While we've made progress over the past decade at reducing the number of veterans experiencing homelessness, there are still too many vets without a roof over their heads. These are men and women who've served and sacrificed for us—they deserve every benefit they've earned. Our legislation seeks to make sure every veteran has the resources they need to find a home."

"We owe an immense debt of gratitude to America's veterans who put their lives at risk defending the freedoms we all enjoy," Loeffler said. "It's unacceptable that these heroes suffer from





homelessness and lack access to resources they desperately need and earned. As a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am proud to introduce the Reducing Veterans Homelessness Act to combat this serious issue and ensure no American hero spends another night without a roof over their heads."

Background: The Reducing Veteran Homelessness Act would make improvements to the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) program and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program by:

- Requiring the VA to contract out vacant HUD-VASH caseworker positions to qualified community providers—if a VA Medical Center has not used more than 15 percent of its HUD-VASH voucher allocation in the previous year and has had a HUD-VASH case manager position vacant for over nine months;
- Allowing for an increase in the per diem payments for community participants in the GPD program; and
- They allow GPD participants to utilize GPD funding to gain access to their local Homeless Management Information System to track outcomes of homeless veterans without paying out of pocket.

The American Legion is currently working with the Legislative division on reviewing the bill. This aligns with Resolution No. 24: Support Funding and Changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs Grant and Per Diem Program

*[Reported by Ariel De Jesus]*

## **TOPIC 6: CAREER FAIRS**

ALL IN-PERSON CAREER FAIRS SCHEDULED THROUGH NOVEMBER HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, SUSPENDED, OR POSTPONED.

**The American Legion is working on future virtual workshops and career fairs.**

**The National staff is currently working with the Department of North Carolina to host its next virtual career fair.**

Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,264, a decrease of 494 from the prior week.

*The mission of The American Legion's National Veterans Employment & Education Commission is to take actions that affect the economic well-being of veterans, including issues relating to veterans' education, employment, home loans, vocational rehabilitation, homelessness, and small business.*



## THE AMERICAN LEGION NORTH CAROLINA

# VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

Employment Opportunities are Waiting for You. Register Now and Connect with Local and Nationwide Employers Looking to Hire.

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 ★ 10:00am-2:00pm (Eastern Time)



*[Reported by Ariel De Jesus]*

### TOPIC 7: SMALL BUSINESS

This week, the U.S. Small Business Administration celebrates veteran, service member, and military spouse small business owners nationwide during National Veterans Small Business Week, Nov. 2-6, 2020.

The U.S. Small Business Administration celebrates, connects, and empowers service members (including National Guard and Reserve), veteran, military spouse entrepreneurs, and business owners – past, present, and future – during National Veterans Small Business Week (NVSBW). Now in its seventh year, NVSBW raises

awareness of veteran small business ownership and encourages communities to support their veteran- and military-owned businesses.



This year's National Veterans Small Business Week theme is "#VetBiz Resources in Your Local Community." During the week, the SBA will highlight and connect veterans nationwide to local level entrepreneurial resources.

Each day, the SBA will focus on a different aspect of veteran business ownership. Topics will include transition assistance, entrepreneurial training, government contracting, disaster assistance, and capital access.

SBA district offices, resource partners, and local organizations will host virtual educational webinars, training workshops, networking opportunities, social media events, and more. The SBA encourages veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses to join the online conversation and share their entrepreneurial stories and best practices, including the local resources they used to establish successful businesses, using the hashtag #VetBiz.

For more information about National Veterans Small Business Week and to find events in your area, visit [www.sba.gov/nvsbw](http://www.sba.gov/nvsbw). For more information on the resources available for veteran entrepreneurs, visit [www.sba.gov/veterans](http://www.sba.gov/veterans).

*[Reported by Davy Leghorn]*

## TOPIC 8: EDUCATION

A Department of Veterans Affairs high-tech job training program introduced last year has run out of money and won't return until its funding is replenished next October, VA officials announced Thursday.



*Veterans training for today's Careers through the VET-TEC program*

The Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses (VET TEC) program, which was created as part of the Forever GI Bill (Public Law 115-48), is meant to help veterans get the cutting-edge skills they need to succeed in today's high-tech industries.

The planned five-year pilot program, which began Oct. 1, 2019, is limited to \$15 million in annual funding by law. After the \$15 million runs out, new enrollments for the program shut down.

The VA announced that the 2021 funding ran out as of Nov. 5, 2020, a little more than a month after the fiscal year began Oct. 1. Since funding became available on October 1, VA has processed over 615 enrollments for students to participate in VET TEC. To date, over 2,000 Veterans have participated in a VET TEC program, 585 have secured employment in a field they studied in, and over 600 are currently seeking employment. VA recently launched an Employer Consortium to accelerate career connections and to hire opportunities for VET TEC participants

and companies seeking high tech talent. As a result, no more veterans are eligible to enroll in the program until Oct. 1, 2021, at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Until additional funding is secured, or the new fiscal year starts on October 1, 2021, VA will not accept new VET TEC student enrollments. Those currently enrolled and receiving a VET; TEC award letter will continue with their training uninterrupted.

But that doesn't mean veterans interested in the program shouldn't go ahead and apply. Instead, VA officials said the future money would be used on a first-come, first-serve basis, starting with any applicants' backlog. If you're thinking about enrolling, you should apply as soon as possible to get your name on the waiting list, officials said.

Given the program's overwhelming success in the first two years of its existence, veterans who are interested in a high-tech job training program might want to explore other funding options that may be available to them, such as state veteran benefits or other GI Bill programs like On-the-Job training or certification testing.

*[Reported by John Kamin]*

## **GLOSSARY OF COMMONLY USED ABBREVIATIONS**

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)  
State Approving Agencies (SAAs)  
Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs)  
National Association of Veterans Program Administrators (NAVPA)  
House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC)  
Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (SVAC)  
Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO)  
National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)  
Office of Personnel Management (OPM)  
Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Services (DOL-VETS)  
Federal Communications Committee (FCC)  
States Department of Agriculture (USDA)  
Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (RPIC)  
California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education ("CSAAVE")  
Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)  
The National Legislative Division (NLD)  
Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC)  
Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)  
Department of Labor (DOL)  
The Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)  
Reserve's Main Street Lending Program (MSLP).  
American Real Estate Investment Club LLC. (AREICLLC.COM)  
National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)  
The National Legislative Division (NLD)  
Veterans Employment and Education Division (VE&E)  
Military Service Organizations (MSOs)  
Department of Defense (DOD)  
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

Compensation and Pension (C&P)  
personal protective equipment (PPE)  
Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)  
Student Veterans of America (SVA)  
Government Accountability Office (GAO)  
Small Business Administration (SBA)  
Lone Star College (LSC)  
Military Credentialing Advancement Initiative (MCAI)  
US Agency for International Development (USAID)  
Defense Security Cooperation Agency/Defense Institute for Medical Operations (DIMO)  
United Nations (UN)  
Prisoner of War (POW)  
Missing in Action (MIA)  
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R)  
VA's National Cemetery Administration (NCA)  
American Corporate Partners (ACP)  
Centers for Disease Control (CDC)  
Transition Assistance Program (TAP)  
Service to School (S2S)  
Grand Old Party (GOP)  
Veterans Evaluation Services (VES)  
Veterans Education Success (VES)  
Grant and Per Diem (GPD)  
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)  
Government Accountability Office (GAO)  
Economic Industry Disaster Loan (EIDL)  
Military Service Organizations (MSO)  
George W Bush (GWB) Report  
SBA's EIDL program.  
EdCounsel – Education Counsel  
Risk-Based Survey (RBS)  
Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)  
American College of Education (ACE)  
National Association of Independent Colleges & Universities (NAICU)  
Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)

**Joseph C. Sharpe, Jr., Director**  
**Veterans Employment & Education Division**  
**202.861.2700 ext. 2989**  
**Week Ending: 11/6/2020**

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