



For Immediate Release: April 21, 2010

BARROW VOTES TO STRENGTHEN VETERANS' HEALTH SERVICES

Washington, D.C. – Congressman John Barrow (GA-12) voted today to ensure that veterans and their families get the care and support they've earned in service to our country. The Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act will support wounded veterans and their families and caregivers, expand care for female veterans, improve mental health services, and increase access to health care for veterans in rural areas.

“One of my highest goals in Congress is to make sure that all veterans get all the care they need when they need it,” said Barrow. “They put their lives on the line for us, and we owe them this much.”

To address the unique needs of the growing number of returning women soldiers, this bill will improve health services for almost 2 million female veterans. The VA will now be able to provide care for female veterans' newborns for the first time in history. It will also improve access to care for veterans in rural areas like those in Georgia's 12th District, ensure that the VA can better treat veterans suffering from mental health issues, and provide the VA with resources to better address the tragically high suicide rate among veterans. This legislation will also support family members and caregivers who look after our injured veterans.

This bill is part of a growing body of legislation that has been passed over the last few years to address the needs of our troops and veterans. Other bills include the new G.I. Bill to provide returning troops with a full college education benefit, historic increases in veterans health care, bi-annual budgeting to prevent political or legislative delays from affecting the delivery of veterans services, expanding economic opportunities for returning soldiers, and improving care for those with PTSD.

“Our soldiers serve with honor. When they come home, they deserve the best services we can offer. That's why I've fought for historic increases in veterans health care, to raise the salaries of our troops, and to smooth their transition back from the battlefield. This bill addresses the changing medical needs of our veterans and make sure that all our veterans have full access to quality health care.”

The Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act is supported by a broad coalition of veterans groups, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Wounded Warriors Project, and the National Military Family Association.

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