



Friend,

I wanted to make sure you were aware of the special enrollment PACT Act period ending on Sept. 30, 2023 for veterans who served in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other combat zones to enroll in VA health care. Veterans who deployed to a combat zone, never enrolled in VA health care, and left active duty between Sept. 11, 2001 and Oct. 1, 2013 are eligible to enroll directly in VA health care without first applying for benefits.

Veterans are encouraged to visit [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT) or call **1-800-MYVA411** to learn more and sign up for VA health care before the deadline. The PACT Act, which I'm proud to have helped secure the final passage of, offers significant improvements to healthcare and benefits access for veterans:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for veterans with toxic exposures and veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and post-9/11 era
- Streamlines the decision-making process for determining medical conditions eligible for presumptive status, making it easier for veterans to access their entitled benefits
- Ensures all enrolled veterans receive an initial toxic exposure screening, with follow-up screenings scheduled every five years
  - Eligible veterans not yet enrolled will have the opportunity to enroll and receive the screening
- Mandates VA research on various critical topics, including Gulf War veteran mortality, post-9/11 veteran health trends, and veteran cancer rates
- Grants VA the authority to expand its workforce to meet the growing demand for benefits and services
- Authorizes the construction of 31 new facilities across the country, enhancing access to VA health care for all

If you have questions about your benefits or would like assistance with any veterans-related issue, I encourage you to call my office at **(202) 225-4261** or

visit my website [wittman.house.gov](http://wittman.house.gov). My dedicated staff is ready to help you get the benefits and care you deserve.

Sincerely,

