

Veterans in Office

Introduction

The Senate and House of Representatives both have a large number of veterans. However, it's not just about how many veterans there are in each house—it's also how they're represented.

There are many ways you can help veterans get into office, including volunteering or donating money.

Getting more veterans into office

Getting more veterans into office is a good start, but there's still work to be done. The first step is getting more veterans to run for office.

- It's important to have people in power who understand what it means to serve their country. While the government can't pay you like your civilian job, there are other ways to make up for that loss of income. And if you're thinking about running for office, don't think of yourself as unqualified simply because you've been away from the workforce for a while.
- Get them to vote! in 2014, only 22 percent of veterans voted compared to the 50 percent of civilians- a difference that has continued in recent years. This means that if you're interested in helping your community or country become stronger, it's up to YOU (the veteran) to do something about it.

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- Donate to veteran charities: The most obvious way to help is by donating money or goods to a veteran organization. There are many organizations that collect donations and distribute them to veterans in need, including the National Military Family Association (NMFA), Homes For Our Troops (HOTS), Operation Homefront (OHT),

Operation Gratitude Inc., and more. You can also donate your time through volunteer opportunities at these groups or other organizations that support our servicemen and women and their families.

- Get involved with veteran organizations: Joining a veteran-focused group or organization is another great way to help veterans and their families. These groups often need volunteers to help with fundraising events, letter writing campaigns and other projects related to helping veterans. For example, the NMFA offers memberships for individuals, couples and families that include benefits like discounts on travel packages for military families traveling by car or plane; access to discounted hotels near major military bases; reduced admission prices at theme parks such as Walt Disney World Resort (FL)

Conclusion

As a veteran sometimes working with the government again may be a difficult decision, but the only way to make that better for you and the future veterans is to make change. Running for office as a veteran or helping a fellow veteran run for office is not going to be an easy task but it will be rewarding. Small things like taking the time to talk about your own experiences as a veteran, sharing stories with others, or volunteering at an organization that serves veterans help tremendously.