



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Mokie Porter
301-996-0901

Vietnam Veterans of America Resolute in Protecting Veterans Access Amid VA proposed Reduction in Force

(Washington, D.C) – “The well-being of our veterans is paramount, and we will actively engage with lawmakers, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the White House to ensure that the promises made to veterans are upheld,” said VVA National President Jack McManus in response to the announcement by VA Secretary Collins to scale back the VA’s workforce to the 2019 level of staffing.

“While we remain hopeful for the future of veterans' access to care, we will not support indiscriminate firings or tolerate any practices that could disrupt services to our veterans,” said McManus. “The ongoing efforts of Secretary Collins and the White House to streamline and enhance access to healthcare and services for our nation's veterans sound positive, however we remain vigilant in our commitment to ensuring that veterans' needs are prioritized.”

“Recent communications with both the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and representatives from the White House have reinforced our understanding that more than 75 percent of VA employees will not be affected by potential layoffs,” said McManus. “Moreover, we have been assured that no layoffs will directly impact the services provided to veterans and their families. While we welcome these assurances, we prioritize actions over words, and it is through tangible results that we truly measure accountability and commitment.”

“The Vietnam veteran generation represents over 6.3 million living veterans across the nation and abroad, and together, we are dedicated to ensuring that every veteran receives the care and respect they deserve. We are committed to a respectful and constructive approach in advocating for our veterans,” said McManus.

“As a congressionally chartered 501(c) 19 veterans service organization, our mission is clear: to assist veterans and their families,” said McManus. “We stand firmly by our founding principle that ‘never again shall one generation of veterans abandon another.’ We reaffirm our commitment to our mission and to the veterans we serve. We remain steadfast in our resolve to ensure that no veteran is left behind, and we will continue to monitor and address any developments that may impact their access to essential services.”