

GONZALEZ STATEMENT ON LANDMARK LEGISLATION FOR WOUNDED VETERANS & WOMEN VETERANS

Washington, DC – Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez (TX – 20) issued the following statement after the House voted on the amendments to S. 1963, Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act:

“Our brave men and women in uniform deserve the best possible care for their service to our country, not just during their time in service but more importantly after they return home. We made an unwavering commitment to prepare our troops for battle with the best possible equipment and resources, and today’s vote furthers our promise to provide support services to veterans and their families.”

This legislation will help meet the many hardships and sacrifices associated with lengthy recovery and rehabilitation from severe injuries of veterans. The bill will provide support services to family and other caregivers of veterans, including education on how to be a better caregiver, counseling and mental health services, and respite care for family and other caregivers of all veterans. It also provides health care and a stipend for caregivers living with severely wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

The bill also expands and improves VA health care services for the women who have bravely served their country, working to remove existing barriers to women veterans seeking health care, providing up to seven days of care of newborn children of women veterans for the first time in history, and enhancing treatment for sexual trauma for women at the VA.

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