

ARA/USA

American Retirees Association

With our Uniformed Services Association affiliate
defending the rights of all uniformed service personnel

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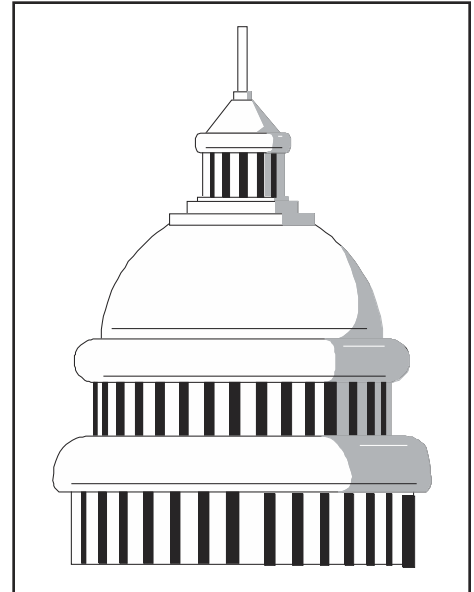
THE WASHINGTON RAMBLE

It's been super partisan politics, inside the DC Beltway the past year with the Donkeys trying their best to bring us to their perspective. That may be lucky for us. Our Legal Counsel sees no undue harm to our former spouses casualty community in the latest of our National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

We will be asking you to call 202-224-3121, ask Congress' switchboard operator to con-

nect you to each one of your elected House and Senate representatives and ask them where they stand on any issues we are concerned about. Thankfully, the National Military Veterans Alliance (NMVA) will gladly bring our proposals to Congress' attention after we introduce them to their respective Sponsor.

Dennis Egge
ARA President



VIEW FROM THE CHARTHOUSE

By Dennis Egge, President
American Retirees Association



Legislative support for our casualties doesn't end at the DC Beltway; it doesn't always begin there either. If you believe your State Legislatures can better bring equal justice in military divorce actions (they are a State's right) proceed,

and don't hesitate to bring your issue to our attention.

If we can assist, we most certainly will. For example, some States do not have jointly earned marital property to garnish by divorce court order but USFSPA

does. Divorce courts order disabled military retiree compensation garnished too. We can call the VA to account when we learn about this, so let us know.

If you would like us to bring our message to your next military retiree appreciation event, please introduce us to the host.

At your service,
Dennis Egge
ARA President

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**CONTACT YOUR
CONGRESSIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES
FREE OF CHARGE AT:**

1-877-762-8762
1-866-220-0044
1-202-224-3121

National Military and Veterans Alliance

Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act (USFSPA)

Legislative agenda for the 117th Congress

Goal: Identify, address and correct USFSPA inequities

Objectives:

- Continue discussions with DoD, regarding the urgent need to adequately brief all personnel on the USFSPA and its possible implications to a military career.
- Work with Congress for hearings regarding the USFSPA prior to the markup of the National Defense Authorization Act.
- Work to identify members of Congress to introduce meaningful legislation to address many of the problems, for all parties, that currently exist within the USFSPA.

American Logistics Association	ala-national.org, membership@ala-national.org
American Military Society	amsmilitary.org, 1-800-379-6128
American Retirees Association.....	americanretirees.org, contactara@rocketmail.com
American WWII Orphans Network	awon.org, awon@awon.org
American Veterans (AMVETS).....	amvets.org, amvets@amvets.org
American World War Network	glayne731@gmail.com
America's Warrior Partnership	americaswarriorpartnership.org
Armed Forces Marketing Council	theafmc.org, info@theafmc.org
Armed Forces Retirees Association	armedforcesretirees.org, 617-590-0172
Army Navy Union	armynavyunion.org, info@armynavyunion.org
Association of the United States Navy	ausn.org, 703-548-5800
Catholic War Veterans	cwv.org, 703-549-3622
Chief Warrant & Warrant Officers Assn of the U.S. Coast Guard ...	cwoauscg@cwoauscg.org, 202-963-1793
Gold Star Wives of America	goldstarwives.org, info@goldstarwives.org
Healing Household 6.....	healinghousehold6.org, info@healinghouseholds6.org
Heroes Athletic Association	herosathleticassociation.org, info@heroesathleticassociation.org
Japanese American Veterans Association	java.wildapricot.org, javapotomac@gmail.com
Jewish War Veterans of the USA	jwv.org, jwv@jwv.org 202-265-6280
Korean War Veterans Association	kwva.us, membership@kwva.us, 217-345-4414
Legion of Valor	legionofvalor.org, 202-320-3295
Military Order of the Purple Heart	purpleheart.org, membership@purpleheart.org, 888-668-1656
Military Order of Foreign Wars	mofwus.org
Military Order of the World Wars	moww.org, chiefofstaff@moww.org, 703-683-4911
National Defense Committee.....	RADMCarey@aol.com
National Gulf War Resource Center	ngwrc.org, support@ngwrc.org, 785-925-9887
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association	nera.org, members@nera.org, 1-800-776-9020
Non Commissioned Officers Association	ncoausa.org, tkish@ncoausa.org
Reserve Organization of America (ROA)	roa.org, ROAInfo@roa.org, 1-800-809-9448
Sea Service Family Foundation	seaservicefamily.org,
Society of Military Widows	militarywidows.org
TREA: The Enlisted Association.....	trea.org, 1-800-338-9337, 303-752-0660
The Flag & General Officers Network.....	flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org, 401-474-7079
The Independence Fund.....	independencefund.org, 888-851-7996
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)	taps.org, 1-800-959-8277, 202-588-8277
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).....	vfw.org, 816-756-3390, 202-543-2239
Veterans of Modern Warfare.....	vmwusa.org
VetsFirst.	vetsfirst.org
Vietnam Veterans of America	vva.org, 1-800-882-1316

Share your USFSPA reform concerns with those your dues support.

AMERICAN RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Membership dues/book order instructions and form

Annual membership dues are \$30.00

The single copy price for our book "Divorce and the Military II" is \$19.95 (shipping & handling included)

ARA Member Discount prices: 1 copy \$15.95; 2-9 copies \$14.95 each; 10+ copies \$13.95 each

Non-ARA Member Discount prices are: 1-5 copies \$18.95; 6-10 copies \$17.95 each; 11+ copies \$16.95 each

All shipments of 1 to 4 books will be shipped via USPS. For orders of 5 or more books, please contact our business office for a quote.

Libraries, Wholesalers, Bookstores, please contact ARA Business Office, phone (909) 557-0107 or email araredlands@yahoo.com for rates and terms.

Please send your book order with payment to:

American Retirees Association
700 E. Redlands Blvd., Ste U-307
Redlands, CA 92373-6152

Cost (each) x Quantity	\$
California Residents: Please add 8.75% sales tax	\$
Total	\$

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2. For those who desire to order their book via U.S. Mail, simply complete the following and return via First Class Mail. Your order will be mailed to you.

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ARA receives inquiries from service members (SM), spouses, attorneys, and even relatives.

A breakdown, in terms of categories, includes the following:

1. Inquiries from people who have asked questions too late — their divorce case has been adjudicated, and they failed to ask their attorneys their questions before the divorce was final. In all these questions, we have to ask: Why didn't you ask your attorney that question? This type of inquiry is asked most often. (Rule #1: Be an active participant in your own divorce! Ask questions when you don't understand something.)
2. In a few cases, people are actually asking questions before the fact, trying to gather information before they file for divorce. In some of those inquiries, no matter which party asks, it still surprises us to see how little information people know about the USFSPA and divorce in general, and their lack of incentive to educate themselves.
3. In the last category are questions from people who have been divorced for several or even many years, now wanting to either stop the payments from the military retired pay (MRP), (inquiry from SM) or get more money (from the ex-spouse). On rare occasions, some cases can be reopened, and Lt Col Thole can refer people to expert lawyers in that regard.

ARA Mission Statement

The American Retirees Association (ARA) was chartered in California in 1984 as a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation to deal with inequities in the Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act (USFSPA), Public Law 97-252, 10 U.S.C. § 1408 *et seq.* Its membership includes active duty, reserve, and retired members of the uniformed services, both male and female.

The ARA is headquartered in Redlands, California, and maintains an action office in the national capital area. The ARA is recognized, within the national community of veterans' organizations, as the leader of the USFSPA reform effort.

The goals of the ARA are relief for those military veterans already affected by various inequities in this law and reduction of the threat to future military retirees. The ARA maintains that there must be fair and equitable treatment for *both* members of any military marriage that ends in divorce.

The American Retirees Association is a California chartered Tax Exempt Corporation #1551226 and was also granted Federal Tax Exemption status I.D. 33-0246743. Dues are \$30 a year. Our Washington D.C (703-527-3065) information/support office and Redlands, CA (909-557-0107) membership/sales headquarters phones are voice mail equipped; all messages will receive a response. YOUR DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.