

REMARKS

CONGRESSMAN SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR. (GA02)

USHR VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE | MEMBER DAY

360 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

THU., DEC. 4, 2025, AT 10:30AM

Chairman Bost, Ranking Member Takano, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for all you do to help America's veterans.

As a representative whose district is home to Fort Benning, Robins Air Force Base, and Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, the welfare of our veterans is at the forefront of my work. I appreciate this opportunity to highlight a bill I have introduced, H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act.

The purpose of H.R. 333 is to ensure the concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability compensation for all veterans, regardless of their Veterans Affairs disability rating.

Currently, veterans rated lower than 50% or who retire with less than 20 years of service cannot concurrently receive full retirement pay

and disability pay. This bill eliminates those arbitrary penalties and extends eligibility to Chapter 61 disability to all honorable retirees.

For those not familiar with veterans' retirement compensation, currently veterans receive two types – retirement pay and disability pay. Currently, if a veteran's disability is rated less than 50%, then whatever the dollar value is in disability pay is subtracted from their retirement pay. This bill would allow veterans to get their full disability pay and retirement pay without one being subtracted from the other.

We cannot tell our veterans their service is valued while simultaneously withholding their earned benefits.

H.R. 333 is supported by every major veterans service organization, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and Wounded Warrior Project.

I hope that as this committee prioritizes its work for 2026, you will consider marking up and/or incorporating H.R. 333 into your efforts.

Advancing this legislation sends a clear message to both current service members and those considering enlisting in our all-volunteer

force: America will keep its promise and take care of its own. I urge the Committee to favorably report out H.R. 333. Thank you.