

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERAN AFFAIRS &
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS
AND
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS HEALTH**

AGENDA

Thursday, September 30, 2010
8:00 A.M.

Bexar County Commissioners Courtroom
Bexar County Courthouse, Suite 1.20
100 Dolorosa
San Antonio, Texas 78205

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. OPENING REMARKS

Senator Leticia Van de Putte, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VI. VETERAN AFFAIRS & MILITARY INSTALLATIONS INTERIM CHARGES

CHARGE 2

Examine the potential risk factors for returning service members, which may contribute to an increase in domestic violence and child abuse cases. Additionally, determine best practices, including funding options, to ensure that specific counseling related to these risk factors is available to and provided for returning service members and their family members during the initial reunion phase.

INVITED TESTIMONY

Major General Jose Mayorga, Texas Adjutant General, State of Texas
James "J.R." Richman, Interim Executive Director, Texas Veterans Commission
James "Red" Towers, Deputy State Inspector, VFW Department of Texas
Toni-Marie Van Buren, Senior Vice President, Partners for Community Change,
United Way of San Antonio & Bexar County
Max Burke, Veteran Community Action Team, Altarum Institute
Victor Luebker, President, San Antonio Coalition for Veterans

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

CHARGE 9B

Monitor the implementation of \$5 million for mental health services programs for

veterans, the military and their dependents, following the Ft. Hood tragedy.

INVITED TESTIMONY

Sam Shore, Director, Mental Health Transformation and Behavioral Health
Operations, Texas Department of State Health Services
Mark Carmona, San Antonio Center for Health Care Services
Linda Lopez, San Antonio Center for Health Care Services
Aaron Diaz, San Antonio Center for Health Care Services
Phylis Speedlin, President, San Antonio Bar Association, Texas Lawyers for Texas
Veterans
Kim Olson, Executive Director, Grace After Fire
Tim Stroud, Manager, TexVet
Jarod Myers, Assistant Manager, TexVet

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

CHARGE 9A

Monitor implementation of constitutional amendments relating to veterans issues.

INVITED TESTIMONY

Tony Cordova, Spokesperson, Veterans Alliance of the Rio Grande Valley
Larry Perez, State Commander, American GI Forum

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

*******THE COMMITTEES WILL BREAK BETWEEN CHARGES*******

VII. CALL TO ORDER

VIII. ROLL CALL

Senate Select Committee on Veterans Health

IX. SELECT COMMITTEE OPENING REMARKS

Senator Jeff Wentworth, Chair, Select Committee on Veterans Health

X. ADOPTION OF SELECT COMMITTEE RULES

XI. SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS HEALTH INTERIM CHARGES

CHARGE 1

Review the availability and quality of federal health care benefits for Texas veterans, including VA hospitals, primary and specialty health care services, and social work services. Make recommendations to the Texas Legislature and the Veterans Administration for improving access and quality of services.

INVITED TESTIMONY

James "J.R." Richman, Interim Executive Director, Texas Veterans Commission
Lt. Col. Alan L. Peterson, USAF (Ret.), Ph.D., ABPP, Professor, Department of
Psychiatry; Chief, Division of Behavioral Medicine; Director, STRONG STAR
Multidisciplinary PTSD Research Consortium, UT Health Science Center at San
Antonio
Major James Cunningham, Immediate Past President, Texas Council of Chapters,
Military Officers Association of America

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

CHARGE 2

Review the availability and quality of state health care benefits for Texas veterans, including state supported nursing homes, mental health services, and other primary and

specialty health care services. Make recommendations to the Texas Legislature for improving access and quality of services.

INVITED TESTIMONY

Sam Shore, Director, Mental Health Transformation and Behavioral Health
Operations, Texas Department of State Health Services
Paul Moore, Executive Secretary, Texas Veterans Land Board
Major James Cunningham, Vice Chairman, Texas Coalition of Veterans
Organizations

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

CHARGE 3

Monitor the BRAC recommended integration of Wilford Hall Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center and the subsequent creation of the San Antonio Military Medical Center to ensure that Texas veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

INVITED TESTIMONY

Col. Suzanne Cuda, USA (Ret.), M.D., Co-Director, San Antonio Medical BRAC
Integration Office
Col. Rebecca Hooper, USA (Ret.), M.D., Program Manager, Center for the Intrepid,
Department of Ortho and Rehab, Brooke Army Medical Center

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

XIII. RECESS