



Louisiana's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District

CONGRESSMAN

CHARLIE  
MELANCON



Congressman Melancon joined Congressman Boustany in honoring Louisiana veterans at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in May.

*Now is the time to honor our vets.  
Remember their pain, don't ever forget.  
Remember them now, and give them their due.  
Stand by their side, 'cause they did it for you.*

*-Anonymous*

Improving Roads, Waterways and  
Airport Infrastructure

**Honoring  
Louisiana's Veterans**



**Congressman Charlie Melancon**

# Honors Louisiana's Veterans

“Veterans Day is the appropriate time to reflect on the sacrifice our service men and women have made for our country. My duty as a public servant is to honor those who serve our country.”

Congressman Melancon discussed current veterans' issues with U.S. combat veteran and former Presidential nominee Bob Dole and over 100 of Louisiana's veterans visiting the War World II Memorial in Washington in September.



## Honoring Veterans- Historic Investments in Veterans' Healthcare and Benefits

### Largest Investment in Veterans Affairs Department in History

The Veterans Affairs Department will see its largest increase in the 77-year history of the department. The \$6.7 billion increase addresses the needs of new veterans entering the system and takes steps to eliminate problems in veterans' healthcare. H.R. 2642 adds 1,100 new caseworkers to handle the current case backlog, dedicates money for maintenance at VA Hospitals and Clinics, and puts a new focus on veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.



Congressman Melancon listens to a WWII veteran from Louisiana speak about veterans' issues.

## Improving Veterans Healthcare

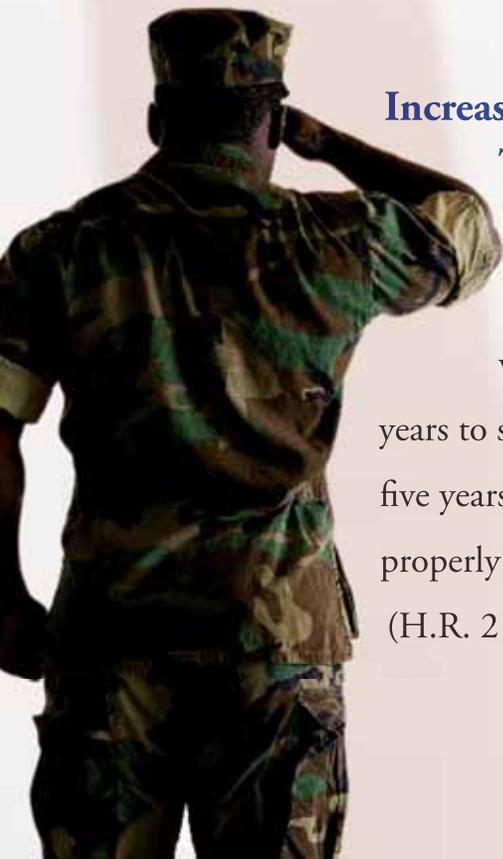
In response to the conditions at Walter Reed Army Hospital and other facilities, Congressman Melancon supported a bill to help active service members transition to the VA system. H.R. 1538, named the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act, will improve outpatient care at military healthcare facilities, cut bureaucratic red-tape in order to help patients, and improve overall service.

## Cost of Living Increase for Disabled Veterans

To keep up with increased cost of healthcare, Congressman Melancon supported H.R. 1284 which increases the cost-of-living adjustment for veterans' disability benefits. The increase is based on the cost-of-living adjustment made annually for Social Security payments, guaranteeing that benefits increase over time.

## Increased Funding for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) have been two of the most serious medical conditions for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Because PTSD can take years to surface, service members are now eligible for VA health insurance for five years after leaving the armed services instead of two (H.R. 612). TBI is now properly screened and treated at VA clinics, giving veterans the help they deserve (H.R. 2199).





# Honoring Louisiana's Veterans

STAY IN TOUCH WITH  
CONGRESSMAN MELANCON

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