

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERANS SERVICES

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REPORT TO THE VETERANS SERVICES FOUNDATION December 10, 2020

The Board of Veterans Services (BVS) held an on-line meeting on November 13, 2020, which focused on the Proposed 2021 Initiatives submitted by the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC) to the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS), Governor, and General Assembly for consideration during the 2021 General Assembly Session.

The Board reviewed each of the JLC's proposed initiatives, and, after careful deliberation, voted to endorse four of the seven recommendations. The Board provided feedback to the JLC Chairman on the other three recommendations and highlighted issues of concern to the BVS that were not addressed in the proposed initiatives. Based partly on feedback from the BVS, the JLC subsequently adopted an eighth (new) recommendation on November 20. The Board looks forward to learning more about the revised and new recommendations at its December 17, 2020, meeting.

To facilitate engagement with VDVS leaders, each Board member is assigned to be the Board's Point of Contact (POC) for a VDVS service area and/or program. Some board members are assigned to be a POC for multiple service/program areas, just as some service/program areas have more than one POC. Five POC reports were delivered at the September 16 BVS meeting and six POC reports will be presented at the Board's December 17 meeting. The Spring 2021 meeting will wrap up this cycle of POC reports. POC reports are posted on the BVS webpage for reference.

The BVS greatly values its links to and coordination with the other boards that are represented *ex officio* on the BVS, including the Veterans Services Foundation. We look forward to learning more about VSF plans and goals for 2021 at our next meeting.

Our next meeting (on-line) will be December 17, 2020. In addition to the POC and *ex officio member* reports, the Board will adopt its 2021 meeting schedule and 2021 work plan, which will include reviewing and advising Commissioner Maxwell on the VDVS Strategic Plan and work on the Compact with Virginia's Veterans

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Dick
Chairman