



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA "ONE POWERFUL  
VOICE ®"

Summer Greetings!

I want to start with thanking our own chapter members Kim Landis (Mortuary and Friends of the Fallen), Steve Edson (Mine Warfare), Lisa Mensch (Army Nurse Career), and Bill Johnson (250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary talk as John Hancock). The sharing of their talents and fabulous careers of service with the chapter made our meetings engaging, informational, and just plain fun!

As we move into the heart of summer and the fall, our chapter leadership has been working closely with the Pittsburgh Chapter on improving the JROTC Awards program in the area and dividing up the zip codes to define each chapter's catchment area for recruiting new members. This zip code project is important as we try to make all MOAA national members aware of the local chapter.

As we all try to stay cool, everyone have a safe and relaxing summer as you travel to see family and friends!

Never Stop Serving,  
Lee Landis

### ***Pennsylvania Legislative Actions Affecting Military Veterans and Dependents***

All politics is local. PA legislative actions can be found at the PA General Assembly web site:  
<https://www.legislstate.pa.us>

Several Pennsylvania bills in recent sessions address veterans' benefits, services, and dependents' support, with some already enacted and others still pending.

- SB 1355 – Pilot Program for Veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI)

This Senate bill amends Title 51 (Military Affairs) to establish a pilot program for treating veterans with TBI. It is co-sponsored by multiple Republican senators and is currently in

the Appropriations Committee. The measure aims to expand access to specialized care for TBI-affected veterans, which can have significant impacts on their ability to work and care for dependents.

- HB 799 – Posting of Veteran Benefits and Resources

This House bill amends Title 51 to require certain workplace posting of veteran benefits and services. It is part of a broader effort to increase transparency and accessibility of benefits for veterans and their families, potentially helping dependents locate and apply for available resources.

- SB 831 – Expanded Disabled Veterans' Real Estate Tax Exemption

This Senate bill modifies the disabled veterans' real estate tax exemption by removing the war service requirement and introducing a graduated property tax reduction based on service-connected disability rating. Veterans with at least a 10% rating could see reductions of \$7,500–\$15,000, depending on severity. This change will benefit a broader group of disabled veterans and may indirectly support dependents by reducing housing costs.

- SB 64 – Military Family Relief Assistance and Veteran-Owned Business Logotype

This bill amends military leave of absence provisions to further provide for military family relief assistance. It also authorizes a veteran-owned business logotype and imposes penalties for misuse. While focused on family relief, it supports dependents by improving access to leave and related benefits during military service.

- State Veterans Programs (PA VETConnect)

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs offers programs such as Military Family Relief Assistance and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for dependents, PA ABLE Savings Programs for veterans with disabilities, Education Assistance for children of 100% disabled or deceased veterans, including tuition waivers and grants, and Employment Assistance and Veterans' Preference in state hiring. Existing state programs continue to provide critical support for dependents' health, education, and employment.

### ***MOAA State Legislative Initiative***

A new tool helps MOAA Members advocate at the state/commonwealth level. These legislatures introduce numerous veteran-related bills every year — and keeping track of them, let alone acting on them, can be a challenge for chapter leaders. That's why the [MOAA State Legislative Exchange Forum](#) launched the SLEF [State Legislative Action Center \(SLAC\)](#), an online tool designed to facilitate state-level advocacy.

SLEF is a national network that connects MOAA State Councils and Chapters working on state legislative issues. By pooling knowledge and coordinating advocacy across states, SLEF helps chapters amplify their voice and avoid duplicating work already underway elsewhere. SLAC tracks the status of bills of interest, and displays for each bill:

- Its current status (introduced, passed, vetoed, and more);
  - Whether the Council or Chapter supports or opposes it, and why;
  - A summary in plain language;
  - A "Take Action" button that generates a ready-to-edit email to applicable state legislators.
- To learn more or join the network, contact the SLEF team at [Team@slef-moaa.com](mailto:Team@slef-moaa.com).

### ***MOAA National Legislative Update***

MOAA's Legislative Action Center (LAC) makes it easy to connect with your elected officials and advocate for meaningful change. Registering ensures you're prepared to support upcoming MOAA legislative issues! While anyone can go on the MOAA website and use the MOAA LAC, MOAA Chapter members need to register and list what chapter they belong to for tracking effectiveness of each LAC initiative. Once on the Legislative Action Center home page, look up in the upper right corner and click on SIGN UP. Use your MOAA-associated email address to assist with recordkeeping. Take action today at [www.moaa.org/takeaction](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction) and join the movement to create a stronger future for all those who serve.

MOAA's Goals for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress:  
<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/advocacy/moaas-legislative-priorities-for-the-119th-congress/>

### ***- Shutdown Fairness Act***

What it does: Allows the Pentagon and the Department of Homeland Security to continue paying service members during any future funding lapse.

### ***- Improve and Enhance the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Act.***

What it does: Modernizes the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), a nonrefundable tax credit employers can take for hiring target group members during the employee's first year on the job, by increasing the amount of the credit and adding military spouses as a target group.

### ***- Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding (GUARD) VA Benefits Act***

What it does: Reinstates criminal penalties for unaccredited claim representatives who charge unauthorized fees while assisting veterans with filing a claim for VA disability compensation benefits.

### ***- Military CARE Act***

What it does: Requires the Pentagon to establish a digital system designed to improve access to care at military treatment facilities (MTFs) by providing beneficiaries with a standardized platform to report barriers to MTF care and creating a data record that does not exist today to give Defense Health Agency leadership and Congress the insights needed to address systemic access challenges.

### ***- Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act***

What it does: Expands health care coverage and career transition support for caregivers, and would require a study designed to provide caregivers with a path toward financial security in retirement.

### ***The MOAA PA Council of Chapters (PACOC)***

From PACOC President CAPT Bob Heister, USN (Ret):

"Please join me, and leaders from the nine chapters comprising PACOC for the fall quarter PACOC meeting on Saturday, 29 August, at the Carlisle Country Club [1242 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle, PA 17013]. A brief with Legislative Chair Bob Gray will begin at 1000 followed by the business meeting at 1100. Bring a carload of your members with you! We'll need RSVPs for lunch and seating purposes by Tuesday, 25 August. [Nancy Anderson and will reach out to

General Greene Chapter members in early August.] **Our guest will be Adam Svolto of the US Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC).** USGLC conducts foreign affairs forums featuring flag officers and members of Congress in discussions in major cities across the US. The forums feature questions from the audience and discussion by the panelists. He is conducting such a forum in Pittsburgh on 28 July. Get smart on US global leadership matters and learn something that's not on the television. [A Zoom link to quarterly PACOC meetings is always available, and will be provided by Nancy ahead of the 29 August meeting.]”

### ***Surviving Spouse Corner***

The MOAA virtual Surviving Spouse chapter provides a place for surviving spouses and surviving spouse liaisons to learn important information, share ideas, and form new relationships with friends who share a common bond. The chapter meets virtually on the third Tuesday of each month. Find details at this link: <https://www.moasurvivingspousevirtualchapter.org/>

***Next Meeting:*** The chapter does not meet in August. Our 14 September luncheon features speaker Moe Haas, Executive Director, Arnold Palmer Regional Airport. Plan to attend!

### ***Chapter Dues***

An important reminder: General Greene Chapter dues are \$25.00 each calendar year, payable January at the start of the year. If you've not yet paid your 2026 dues, please do so now! Make check payable to MOAA and mail to chapter treasurer

Tim Green  
1655 Route 259  
Ligonier, PA 15658

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Chapter Annual Membership Meeting and buffet w/MOAA National Speaker CAPT Frank “Tank” Michael**

Date: Wed., 9 December

Time: 1130-1300

Cost: \$55.00 per person

Latrobe Country Club

346 Arnold Palmer Drive, Latrobe, PA 15650

**Details/RSVP form emailed by mid-November!**



Lee with our March speaker, Kim Landis



Lee Landis with Steve and Wendy Edson, in April



Lee Landis and VSO Matt Zamosky in May





Lee Landis with our June speaker, Lisa Mench, and Frank



Lee Landis at Ligonier Valley HS and Bruno Petruccelli at Albert Gallatin HS distributing JROTC awards to honor cadets in May



Lee Landis with Dave Sever, LVHS AFJROTC and Rich Cassem, Albert Gallatin HS JROTC, in June



John Hamilton, our July speaker, guest of Bill Johnson

*The Military Officers Association of America is a nonpartisan military nonprofit organization that does not engage in partisan politics and works with all political leaders in moving military and veteran's legislation that will help the men and women who currently serve in the active, Guard and Reserve, those who previously served and the retired, their families and survivors.*

**MOAA<sup>®</sup> VACATIONS**

**MOAA SIGNATURE GROUPS**

**Join MOAA Leadership and your fellow members on a hosted cruise or land tour!**

**LEARN MORE**

<https://www.moaa.org/content/benefits-and-discounts/exclusive-discounts/travel/moaa-vacations/>