



**THE 2023-2024 PLATFORM REPORT TO THE HOUSE
VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

To: Chair – Rep. Jerry Newton HD 35B
Vice-Chair – Rep. Steve Elkins HD 50B

Rep. Mary Frances Clardy HD 53A Rep. Dave Lislegard HD 07B
Rep. Nathan Coulter HD 51B Rep. Matt Norris HD 32B
Rep. Emma Greenman HD 63B

The resolutions listed below are from part of our DFL platform, known as the Action Agenda and have been identified as potentially being relevant to the work of your committee. The support for each resolution is given; the number of Congressional Districts and Organizing Units backing the resolution, and the percentage of approval by the delegates to the State Convention.

Mental Health

Support the availability and funding of mental health and substance abuse treatment so all individuals who are in need of help, including children, have sufficient access to these services. [7 CDs, 9 OUs, 91%]

Veterans' Health Care

Support fully funding and staffing the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Create a separate budget for the private sector Veterans Community Care Program (VCCP), which will be fully managed by the VHA. Require all VCCP healthcare personnel to meet the same competency standards required at VHA facilities, including treating PTSD, TBI, MST and risk for veteran suicide. [5 CDs, 5 OUs, 81%]

Homelessness

Homelessness and housing are state-wide issues. All levels of government must renew their commitments to decent housing options, affordable for all. Solutions must include safe neighborhoods, removal of income and racial barriers to decent housing and ensuring no one must spend more than 30% of their monthly income on permanent housing. [4 CDs, 8 OUs, 80%]

Restore 100 beds to MN State Veterans Homes

Support immediate and full funding of work to restore the 100 skilled care nursing beds to our Minnesota State Veterans Home. [5 CDs, 7 OUs, 78%]

Insurance coverage of Neuropathy Care

Support legislation to require Tri-Care, Medicare, VA Health Administration, and all private insurance to cover the cost of neuropathy care for Veterans, and all Americans who suffer from diabetic foot-related issues. [4 CDs, 5 OUs, 74%]

From the DFL Ongoing Agenda

We Support

- Only voluntary enlistment in the armed services.
- Providing veterans and military personnel with the appreciation, respect, and benefits deserved because of honorable service to our country.
- Efforts to locate and bring home service personnel who are prisoners of war or missing in action.
- Ensuring public availability of government information.
- Adequate provision for the needs of physically, mentally or emotionally challenged persons, including in home and institutional care services.
- Institutional and outpatient mental health programs and services that provide equal access, continuity of care, and protection of patient rights.
- United Nations mediation of international conflicts and global reduction in armed forces and nuclear and conventional weapons.

We Oppose

- Terrorism, dictatorial and exploitative international policies.
- All forms of United States exploitation in foreign countries, and any attempts to dictate their political systems.

We present this report as a summary of the passion of our grass roots, a vision of our caring society. We appreciate your support for the DFL's legislative priorities as you move forward this session. Thank you for supporting the people of Minnesota.