

Together we're stronger

# **Military Family Update**

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# Sequestration

"We can choose to end the debilitating effects of sequestration, and we must."

- SASC Chairman John McCain (R-AZ) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI)

#EndSequestration

Source: Politico

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION Together we're stronger

## Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission Recommendations

Picked up this year:

- Retirement Reform
  - Decreased Defined Benefit
  - Increased Employer Contribution
  - Continuation Pay
- Financial Literacy
  - Funding and increased programming for informed savings participation (prep for healthcare changes?)

Future changes:

- Healthcare reform
  - Change in healthcare delivery at Managed Care Facility?
  - Increased costs to dependents?
  - Increased choice?
  - Continuity for RC?
  - Increased costs to working-age retirees?

## NDAA: Past and Present

## FY 2015

- 1% pay raise instead of ECI 1.8%
- 1% cut to Basic Allowance for Housing and exclusion of renter's insurance costs
- Increase in pharmacy co-pays
- \$100M cut to commissary

## FY 2016 Proposals

- 1.3% pay raise (S.1176) instead of ECI of 2.3%
- 5% cut to Basic Allowance for Housing and reduction for cohabitating personnel (including dual-mil couples)
- Increase in pharmacy co-pays
- \$300M cut to commissary and privatization pilot program

### **Military Spouse Transition Concerns**

#### <u>% of Military Spouses Extremely or Very Concerned with:</u>



### **Veteran/Retired Spouse Transition Challenges**

#### <u>% of Recent Veteran Spouses Rating Issue as Extremely or Very Challenging:</u>



**Source:** NMFA Transition Survey – May 2014

# Few military spouses facing transition feel well informed about issues related to financial preparedness

## More Information Needed: FINANCIAL PREPARATION

#### % of Military Spouses:



**Source:** NMFA Transition Survey – May 2014

## What does NMFA do about all of this?

- Advocate and educate
- Consult and collaborate
- Programs
  - Operation Purple® Programs
  - Spouse Scholarships
  - MyMilitaryLife Mobile Application

## What can you do?

- Stay involved with legislators
- Programs and offers to assist when government fails
- More of what you are already doing helping families prepare financially through savings, employment, and education.



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