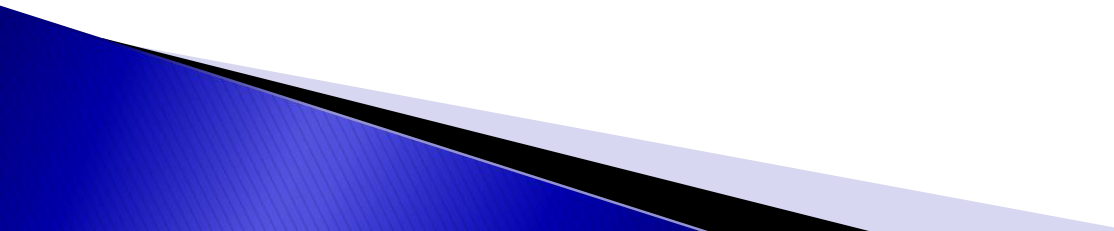




# Virginia Military Advisory Council

Quality of Life Sub-Committee Update  
December 12, 2014

# Methodology

- ▶ A list of issues was drafted for consideration, drawn from the Department of Defense's State Liaison Office, research findings, media coverage, and input from subject matter experts.
  - ▶ Taking into consideration various factors and implications of their choosing, members indicated the three issues they'd like the Virginia Military Advisory Council's sub-committee on Quality of Life Issues to focus on in the coming term.
  - ▶ The QOL sub-committee leadership reviewed this input and listed the three issues this group collectively decided to pursue.
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# Issue 1

## Service member retention of their earned priority for receiving Medicaid home and community care

- ▶ Virginia can assist separating Service members and their families by recognizing that the mobile military lifestyle hinders reasonable participation in state Medicaid options and waiver programs.
- ▶ States could allow active duty Service members to use their state of legal residence (i.e. where they pay taxes, vote, register their vehicles, hold a driver's license, etc.) to register their special needs family members for a Medicaid waiver.
- Enrollment for waivers in their resident state would allow the family members to progress along with other state citizens until they become eligible to receive benefits.
- Eligibility status is retained as long as the member maintains the state as his/her legal resident and returns to the state after military separation. The member either receives credit for time on the list or begins receiving benefits when they return home

*Information provided by Office of the Secretary of Defense;  
State Liaison Office*

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# Issue 2

Facilitate service members receiving licensure and academic credit for military education, training and experience

- ▶ Discussion by VCCS
- ▶ Support and coordination from QoL Sub-Committee

# Issue 3

## Virginia Guidance for Representatives under Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA)

- ▶ Current state and federal law provides limited guidance for legal counsel representing servicemembers under the SCRA.
- ▶ The absence of guidance is a disservice to both the servicemember who is denied due process and to counsel who may not understand his or her duties.
- ▶ Clarification of the obligation of counsel appointed under the SCRA would better serve and protect servicemembers and the judicial process.

*Information provided by Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Norfolk  
POC: CAPT, USN (Ret) Kathy Nelson - [kathy.nelson@nmcrs.org](mailto:kathy.nelson@nmcrs.org)*

# Next Steps

- ▶ Guidance from VMAC
  - ▶ Discuss within Sub-Committee on desired and coordinated action
  - ▶ Draft strategy
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