

NURSES' NOTES
August 2017



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MOAA UNIFORMED SERVICES NURSE
ADVOCATES VIRTUAL CHAPTER
"NURSES' NOTES"

"Nurses' Notes" E-Newsletter is published by the non-partisan MOAA Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

This E-Newsletter contains a wealth of information from various websites, or in descriptive paragraphs, below, which are hyperlinked. Click on any underlined text to open.

MOAA (VC01) VIRTUAL CHAPTER

The MOAA Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter is the first Virtual Chapter approved by MOAA and focuses on advocacy of Health Care issues. NEVER STOP SERVING! Check us out at our [Facebook Group Page](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! We are on Summer Recess during August! Remember, August is MOAA Hometown Advocacy time. You can find the web address for your US and State Legislators on our website. [CLICK HERE](#)
Our next Chapter tele-web conference will be held 20 September 2017 at 2000 hours (Eastern).

NOTE: Work has been done on our [MUSNAVC](#) website and we would like to hear your comments, suggestions, and recommendations for improvements. You can respond directly from the website or send us an email. We appreciate and welcome all feedback.

FDA Reauthorization Bill Passes Senate

Patients should not have to worry about the price of the medicines they rely on skyrocketing overnight. By incentivizing lower-cost generic drugs to enter those markets where there is a monopoly, we are using free market solutions to increase competition and drive drug prices down. [Click Here](#) to read the bill and for further information. Check out this [editorial](#) from Bloomberg about the importance of generic drug competition.

The House approved the FDA Reauthorization Act on July 12 in a unanimous, bipartisan vote. Now that the Senate has passed it, the bill is headed to the President's desk for signature.

VA Releases Report on Opioid Prescribing

Opioid abuse is an equal opportunity destroyer; it doesn't care if you're rich or poor, old or young, or if you have served our country. Our Veterans, especially those dealing with chronic pain and mental health problems, are at a higher risk for opioid overdose than civilians. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of the Inspector General recently released a report on improving prescribing practices and information sharing to help prevent abuse. Click [HERE](#) to read the report and for further information.

Call for Action and Legislator Connect

Every August, MOAA asks all members to be especially connected with their legislators at home during summer recess. Review the health care related actions and please [follow through](#) in contacting your legislator to ask for his/her support.

Forever GI Bill Passes Congress

Both houses of Congress unanimously passed the *Forever GI Bill* and sent it to the President for signature. The bill will expand educational benefits to Veterans by more than \$3 billion in the next ten years. For new enlistees, it will remove the 15-year limit on when recipients must use their GI Bill benefits, enhancing Veterans' ability to attend higher education later in life. The legislation also boosts education assistance for National Guard and Reserve troops, Purple Heart recipients and for the dependents of fallen troops.

MOAA National

Persons interested in learning more about the national organization of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) can follow this link: www.moaa.org.

[BENEFIT INFORMATION](#) | [MEMBERSHIP MATTERS](#)

The *Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)* is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.



The [Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter](#) is an affiliate of MOAA and is dedicated to the goals of MOAA. It serves as a virtual advocate on health care issues throughout the United States.

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