



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 20, 2019

I send my warmest greetings to the veterans, service members, and families gathered for the 120th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Orlando, Florida.

The United States Armed Forces are the greatest fighting force to defend freedom in history. Our courageous men and women in uniform selflessly answer the call of duty to keep our country safe, strong, and free. Because of the remarkable sacrifices of our service members and their families, we continue to enjoy the hard-earned blessings of liberty and prosperity.

America's veterans deserve our country's unending respect and support. For this reason, my Administration is committed to ensuring our veterans and their families receive the care they deserve. In June, as part of the implementation of the VA MISSION Act, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) consolidated its community care programs into one unified program, simplifying and strengthening healthcare options for veterans. Recently, I also signed an Executive Order launching the PREVENTS Initiative, which establishes a task force charged with developing a comprehensive public health roadmap to help end the national tragedy of veteran suicide.

Additionally, my Administration is determined to continue modernizing the VA to make it more efficient. We are processing veteran claims and appeals more quickly than ever before, and veterans can now use their GI Bill benefits at any point in their lives. Furthermore, my Administration is working hard so that, for the first time in history, the Department of Defense and the VA will share unified electronic health records.

The outstanding work of the VFW is critical to helping fulfill our Nation's promise to honor the sacrifice and service of those who left the comfort and love of home to defend our great country. Melania and I extend our congratulations on this significant milestone and send our best wishes for a memorable celebration. May God bless you, and may He continue to bless the United States of America.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Donald Trump".