

LOBBYING REPORT

Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 5) - **All Filers Are Required To Complete This Page**

1. Registrant Name:

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE US (VFW)

2. Address:

200 MARYLAND AVENUE, NE, WASHINGTON, DC 20002

3. Principal place of business (if different from line 2):

4. Contact Name: DENNIS M. CULLINAN

Telephone: 2025432239

E-mail (optional): dcullinan@vfw.org

Senate ID #: 40010-12

House ID #:

7. Client Name: Self

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. (VFW)

TYPE OF REPORT

8. Year 2007 Midyear (January 1 - June 30): **OR** Year End (July 1 - December 31):

9. Check if this filing amends a previously filed version of this report:

10. Check if this is a Termination Report: => Termination Date: _____ 11. No Lobbying Activity:

INCOME OR EXPENSES

Complete Either Line 12 **OR** Line 13

12. Lobbying Firms

INCOME relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period was:

Less than \$10,000:

\$10,000 or more: => Income (nearest \$20,000): _____

Provide a good faith estimate, rounded to the nearest \$20,000, of all lobbying related income from the client (including all payments to the registrant by any other entity for lobbying activities on behalf of the client).

13. Organizations

EXPENSES relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period were:

Less than \$10,000:

\$10,000 or more: => Expenses (nearest \$20,000): 13,000.00

14. Reporting Method.

Check box to indicate expense accounting method. See instructions for description of options.

- Method A.** Reporting amounts using LDA definitions only
 Method B. Reporting amounts under section 6033(b)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code
 Method C. Reporting amounts under section 162(e) of the Internal Revenue Code

Registrant Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE US (VFW) Client Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. (VFW)
LOBBYING ACTIVITY

Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code: VET (one per page)

16. Specific lobbying issues:

S. 1409--the 21st Century GI Bill of Rights Act of 2007 extends eligibility to Active Duty troops and National Guard and Reserve members who serve an aggregate of two years on active duty; would pay tuition, books, fees, room and board over the course of four years of full-time education; lifts the \$1,200 buy-in fee; and further exempts veterans from paying loan fees etc. S. 1719-- amends title 38, United States Code, to provide additional educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill to veterans pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering, or math. S. 961--Belated Thank You to the Merchant Marines of World War II Act of 2007 seeks to expand the current dates of service for WW II Merchant Marines who are recognized as veterans, and to pay a \$1,000 monthly benefit to these WW II Merchant Marines or to their surviving spouses. S. 994--Disabled Veterans Fairness Act eliminates a \$3 per round trip deductible charged by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in connection with the veterans beneficiary travel program and further directs the Secretary, in determining the amount of such allowance or reimbursement, to use the mileage reimbursement rates for the use of privately owned vehicles by government employees traveling on official business. S. 1026--designates the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center at 1 Freedom Way in Augusta, Georgia, as the "Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center." S. 1043--directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report to Congress on the master plan of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) relating to the use of VA lands of the West Los Angeles Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, California, as originally required under the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998. S. 1096--the Veterans' Housing Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007 would provide VA housing and automobile grants to service members and veterans with burn injuries and those with traumatic brain injuries (TBI). S. 1147--the Honor Our Commitment to Veterans Act directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to administer the health care enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs so as to enroll any eligible veteran who applies. S. 1163-- the Blinded Veterans Paired Organ Act of 2007 would improve compensation and specially adapted housing for veterans who have impairment of vision involving both eyes and allow the use of the National Directory of New Hires for income verification purposes. S. 1205--requires a pilot program on assisting veterans' service organizations and other veterans' groups in developing and promoting peer support programs that facilitate community reintegration of veterans returning from active duty. S. 1215--extends and improves certain authorities of VA funding for State Approving Agencies (SAAs) increased to \$19 million instead of the previous cap of \$13 million. S. 1233--the Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitation Act of 2007 provides enhanced intervention, rehabilitative treatment and services to veterans with traumatic brain injury. S. 1261--the Montgomery GI Bill for Life Act of 2007 seeks to eliminate the post-service 10-year time limit for the active duty MGIB and the in-service 14-year time limit for guard and reservists. S. 1265--expands eligibility for veterans' mortgage life insurance (VMLI) to include members of the Armed Forces receiving specially adapted housing assistance from VA. S. 1266--the Veterans Dignified Burial Assistance Act of 2007 allows a veteran who is not buried in a national cemetery, a plot allowance of up to \$300. S. 1290--impacts the funding and reporting of State Approving Agencies (SAA) would require improved coordination between the VA and SAA, the Department of Education, Department of Labor, and other entities to reduce overlapping functions. S. 1293--the Veterans' Education Improvement Act of 2007 would expand accelerated payments for the existing GI Bill programs to allow funding for any short-term, high-cost school and would also allow Guard and Reserve members and veterans' surviving dependents to use accelerated payments as part of their education benefit. S. 117--Lane Evans Veterans Health and Benefits Improvement Act of 2007 aims to improve VA and DOD transitioning efforts by increasing outreach services available to our guard and reserve members and requires comprehensive reporting by the Departments of Veterans' Affairs, Labor and Defense with respect to Global War on Terror (GWOT) veterans. S. 168--would direct the VA to establish a national cemetery in the Pikes Peak region of Colorado. S. 225--expands the number of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Service Members Group Life Insurance. S. 383--would extend the period of eligibility for health care for combat service during the Persian Gulf War from two years to five years. S. 423--the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2007 would provide a cost-of-living adjustment to compensation, clothing allowance, and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) rates for veterans and their families. S. 472--would authorize \$523 million to construct a replacement VA Medical Center in Denver, Colorado. S. 479--The Joshua Omvig Suicide Prevention Act aims to create a comprehensive program of suicide prevention among veterans. S. 526--the Veterans Employment and Training Act of 2007 seeks to increase the types of education programs eligible for accelerated payments under the GI Bill. S. 610--would make changes to the retirement annuity for certain health-care professionals within VA. S. 692-- would require VA to develop and implement a system to measure data about its health care facilities. S. 643--the Disabled Veterans Insurance Act of 2007 would increase the amount of insurance a disabled veteran can purchase under Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance from \$20,000 to \$40,000. S. 644--Total Force Educational Assistance Enhancement and Integration Act of 2007 addresses the inequity between active duty GI Bill and reserve GI Bill education benefits. S. 698--the Veterans' Survivors Education Enhancement Act of 2007 would increase the maximum amount of GI Bill benefits available for eligible veterans' survivors and dependents from the current \$788 a month, paid over 45 months equaling \$35,460, to approximately \$1,778 a month totaling \$80,000. S. 723--the Montgomery GI Bill Enhancement Act of 2007 rewards members of the Armed Forces and Selected Reserve for their active duty service from November 16, 2001 until Executive Order 13235 is terminated. S. 815--Veterans Health Care Empowerment Act would allow any veteran to elect to receive contracted care whenever he/she chooses. S. 847--would extend the period of time during which a veteran's multiple sclerosis is to be considered to have been incurred in, or aggravated by, military service during a period of war. S. 848--the Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 2007 repeals the 30-day requirement for former prisoners of war to file for presumptive disabilities related to their captivity. S. 874--The Services to Prevent Veterans Homelessness Act of 2007. S. 882--would create a pilot program to improve the seamless transition for separating service members. H.R. 1444--directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make interim benefits payments under certain remanded claims. H.R. 1470--Chiropractic

Page 2

Registrant Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE US (VFW) Client Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. (VFW)

Care Available to All Veterans Act would require VA medical centers to begin hiring chiropractors at each facility H.R. 1471-- would allow veterans to receive direct access to chiropractic services H.R. 1488--VA Hospital Quality Report Card Act would require VA to develop and implement a system to measure data about its health care facilities H.R. 1490-- would provide for a presumption of service-connectedness for certain claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs H.R. 1527--like H.R. 315, allows for the contracting of care for certain veterans in rural areas H.R. 1853-- the Jose Medina Veterans Affairs Police Training Act would require VA police officers to undergo training on how to deal with patients and visitors who are suffering from mental illnesses H.R. 1900--extends the eligibility for veterans' pension benefits to veterans who receive an expeditionary medal for a period of military service other than a period of war H.R. 1901--extends eligibility for pension benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who served during certain periods in specified locations H.R. 1925--would establish a new Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) in the Gulf Coast Region H.R. 1944--would require VA to implement a screening program for traumatic brain injuries H.R. 2005--Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act aims to solve one of the greatest problems facing a large number of veterans who live in remote locations: access to care, improve services, including transportation for disabled vets, and research and partnerships with small communities H.R. 2172--Amputee Veteran Assistance Act requires that all Department of Veterans Affairs orthotic-prosthetic laboratories, clinics, and prostheses are certified by either the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics or the Board of Orthotics and Prosthetic Certification H.R. 2173--would allow VA Secretary to enter into contracts for service with community mental health care centers H.R. 2219--Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline Act would establish a grant program to an organization to staff and run a suicide prevention hotline targeted and staffed by veterans and armed forces personnel H.R. 2346--would direct the VA Secretary to establish a process for determining whether a geographic area is sufficiently served by the national cemeteries located in that geographic area H.R. 2623--would exempt patients seeking hospice care from paying co-payments H.R. 2696--Veterans' Dignified Burial Assistance Act of 2007 increases the plot allowance to \$400 for those not buried in a national cemetery H.R. 2697--would expand eligibility for veterans' mortgage life insurance (VMLI) to include members of the Armed Forces receiving specially adapted housing assistance from VA Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2007 This legislation enhances military strength while providing a service member's educational benefit to aid in transition assistance and equips a generation of veterans to face the challenges of tomorrow Disabled Veterans Insurance Improvement Act of 2007 would increase the Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance from \$90,000 to \$200,000 and create a new insurance program for veterans with service-connected disabilities Veterans' Justice Assurance Act of 2007 would provide some relief to a burdened veterans' court system Comprehensive Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2007 would update and correct inequities across the range of benefits and services offered veterans; would expand eligibility for government markers or headstones for marked graves of veterans at private cemeteries whose death occurred on or after September 11, 2001 Service Members' Cellular Phone Contract Fairness Act of 2007 would amend the Service members Civil Relief Act by providing relief for servicemembers with respect to contracts and cell phone fees for cellular phone service Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2007 aims to improve outreach activities within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) by coordinating the efforts among the offices of the Secretary, Public Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration and the National Cemetery Administration Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Mental Health and Advocacy Act of 2007 Nomination of Brigadier General Michael J. Kussman, M.D (United States Army Ret.) to be the Under Secretary for Health for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) H.R. 67--Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2007 This bill aims to improve outreach activities within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) by coordinating the efforts among the offices of the Secretary, Public Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration and the National Cemetery Administration H.R. 92--Veterans Timely Access to Health Care Act would require veterans to be seen within 30 days and establish access standards within VA for veterans seeking care H.R. 315--HEALTHY Vets Act aims to improve health care access for rural veterans by increasing contracting opportunities for veterans in geographically remote areas H.R. 339--similar to H.R. 92, this bill establishes a six-month access standard for any care a veteran is to receive, and if that standard is not met, VA must provide fee-basis care H.R. 463--would end the 4-year freeze on the enrollment of new Category 8 veterans H.R. 542--would make mental health services available for veterans with limited English proficiency H.R. 674--would repeal the scheduled sunset date of December 31, 2009, for the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans H.R. 1273--Restoration of Plot Allowance Eligibility for Veterans H.R. 1426--would allow any veteran to elect to receive contracted care whenever he/she chooses H.R. 1435--The Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Reduction Act of 2007 would direct the Secretary to conduct a pilot program intended to reduce the backlog of claims for benefits pending with VA VA Construction Budget Issues Facing Women and Minority Veterans

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted:

Defense, Dept of (DOD)
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SENATE
SENATE
Veterans Affairs, Dept of (VA)

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area:

Name: BRADSHAW, WILLIAM
Covered Official Position (if applicable): DIRECTOR, NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE
Name: CULLINAN, DENNIS M.
Covered Official Position (if applicable): DIRECTOR, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE
Name: HILLEMANN, ERIC A.
Covered Official Position (if applicable): DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE

Registrant Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE US (VFW) Client Name: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. (VFW)

Name: WALLACE, ROBERT E. (BOB)

Covered Official Position (if applicable): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VFW WASHINGTON OFFICE

Name: WYSONG, MICHAEL H.

Covered Official Position (if applicable): DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN AFFAIRS

19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above. **None**

Signature: ON FILE Date: Aug 14, 2007

Printed Name and Title: DENNIS M. CULLINAN, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE -

Information Update Page:

Complete ONLY where registration information has changed.

LOBBYIST UPDATE

23. Name of each previously reported individual who is NO LONGER expected to act as a lobbyist for the client

Name: KINDERMAN, QUENTIN P.

ISSUE UPDATE

24. General lobbying issues previously reported that NO LONGER pertain

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

25. Add the following organization(s)

26. Name of each previously reported organization that is NO LONGER affiliated with the registrant or client

FOREIGN ENTITIES

27. Add the following foreign entities

28. Name of each previously reported foreign entity the NO LONGER owns, OR controls, OR is affiliated with the registrant, client or affiliated organization

Signature: ON FILE Date: Aug 14, 2007

Printed Name and Title: -