

# Who's Looking Out for U.S. Veterans?

## Compare the issues. Decide for yourself.



	Barack Obama	John McCain
<b>The 21st Century GI Bill. Provides better educational opportunities to veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars. (signed into law 6/30/2008)</b>	Supported and voted for the bill.	Did not support. Publicly said he opposed the measure because the benefits would "encourage more people to leave the military." (S.Amdt. 4803 to H.R. 2642, Vote 137, 5/22/08; Chattanooga Times Free Press, 6/2/08; Boston Globe, 5/23/08; ABCNews.com, 5/26/08).
<b>Increase Funding for Veterans' Health Care</b>	Co-sponsored bill to provide an additional \$1.5 billion for veterans' medical care. (Time, 2/20/06)	Voted to cut, eliminate, or gut veterans' health care funding at least 29 times since 1990. HR 4939, Vote #111, 5/4/06; HR 4939, Vote #98, 4/26/06; SCR 83, Vote #70, 3/16/06; SCR 83, Vote #67, 3/16/06; SCR 83, Vote #63, 3/16/06; SCR 83, Vote #41, 3/14/06; HR 4297, Vote #15, 2/13/06; HR 4297, Vote #7, 2/2/06; S 2020, Vote #343, 11/17/05; HR 2863, Vote #251, 10/5/05; HR 2528, Vote #242, 9/22/05; HR 2361, Vote #165, 6/29/05; HR 2361, Vote #166, 6/29/05; HR 2361, Vote #168, 6/29/05; HR 1268, Vote #90, 4/12/05; HR 1268, Vote #89, 4/12/05; SCR 95, Vote #40, 3/10/04; S 1689, Vote #379, 10/14/03; SCR 23, Vote #81, 3/25/03; S 2168, Vote #185, 7/7/98; S 936, Vote #168, 7/10/97; HR 3666, Vote #276, 9/5/96; HR 3666, Vote #275, 9/5/96; HR 2099, Vote #466, 9/27/95; HR 4624, Vote #256, 8/4/94; HR 1335, Vote #97, 4/1/93; S 2884, Vote #226, 8/4/90; HR 2519, Vote #132, 7/17/91.
<b>Improve Military Health Facilities</b>	Sponsored the Dignity for Wounded Warriors Act to improve the quality of care at military hospitals like Walter Reed. (Reuters, 2/20/07; The Hill, 2/21/07; S. 713, 2/28/07)	Voted against establishing a \$1 billion trust fund to improve military health facilities, like the Walter Reed Hospital (S.Amdt. 2735 to S.Amdt. 2707 to H.R. 4297, Vote 7, 2/2/06)
<b>Provide Better Counseling Services for Veterans with Mental Disorders</b>	Proposes more mental health professionals, improved screening, fairer system to set post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) benefits and established standards of care for traumatic brain injuries. (www.barackobama.com)  Introduced the Veterans Homelessness Prevention Act to provide support services to keep veterans from falling into homelessness. (Obama Senate Press Release, 11/9/07)	Voted against an amendment to appropriate \$500 million annually from 2006-2010 for counseling, mental health and rehabilitation services for veterans diagnosed with mental illness, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or substance abuse. (S. 2020, S.Amdt. 2634, Vote 343, 11/17/05)
<b>Served on Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee</b>	Requested assignment to Veterans' Affairs Committee.	Never served on Veterans' Affairs Committee in his 26 years in the Senate.