



SENATOR WENDY R DAVIS
District 10

The Senate of The State of Texas

COMMITTEES
Education
International Relations & Trade
Transportation & Homeland Security
Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ...

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SENATOR WENDY DAVIS NAMED TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS HEALTH

FORT WORTH, TX – Senator Wendy Davis said Friday that improving services for Texas' returning combat veterans will be a high priority in her recent appointment to the Senate Select Committee on Veterans Health.

The Texas Senate's focus on veterans health, combined with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' recent announcement that it will relax rules on treating veterans with post traumatic stress disorder, could help Texas connect more of our nation's heroes with vital veterans services.

"The formation of this committee is an important step in our obligation to care for those who have given so much on behalf of our country," Davis said. "Our priority should be removing existing bureaucratic barriers so that veterans are able to receive the kind of care they deserve."

Texas is home to more than 1.7 million veterans; there are an estimated 124,479 veterans living in Tarrant County.

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At a recent Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations held in Fort Worth, veteran officials and representatives of veteran groups testified that younger veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan combat deployments rarely seek out services that veterans of previous generations had accessed.

In her new committee assignment on Veterans Health, Senator Davis said she will focus on finding new ways to reach those younger combat veterans.

Last year, Davis worked on legislation to assist our veterans, including co-authoring a bill that helped establish one of Texas' first court programs that gives veterans with combat-related brain injuries or mental health issues a second chance when circumstances bring them to the criminal justice system.

As a member of the Senate Veteran Affairs and Military Installations Committee, Davis also has asked hard questions during interim legislative hearings about how our state's veterans are being served, especially those who are dealing with post traumatic stress disorders.

In recognition of her efforts on behalf of veterans, Senator Davis has been honored to receive the *Leadership Award* from the Texas Veterans Commission and the *Veterans Service Award* from the Jewish War Veterans Post #755.

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