

CONGRESSWOMAN



MAXINE DEXTER M.D.

OREGON'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Focused Assistance and Skills Training for Veterans' Employment and Transition Success (FAST VETS) Act

The *Focused Assistance and Skills Training for Veterans' Employment and Transition Success (FAST VETS) Act* is about delivering on our promise to those who have served. Veterans who live with service-connected disabilities deserve every opportunity to succeed in civilian life. That includes access to the Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) program which provides job training, education, employment accommodations, and resources to build a meaningful career.

Background

Following the passage of the PACT Act, enrollment in the VR&E program has risen significantly as more veterans have become eligible for its services. This surge has resulted in longer wait times for veterans seeking to enroll and delays in connecting with program counselors. This legislation streamlines veterans' progression through the program—supporting timely graduation and employment—while enabling counselors to serve a greater number of veterans.

Solution

The FAST VETS Act strengthens the VA's VR&E program by prioritizing outcome-focused planning to support veteran success. This legislation establishes clearer standards for redeveloping a veteran's vocational rehabilitation plan in instances when a veteran's employment barrier has changed and when a different plan would more effectively support their rehabilitation goals. This needed change will allow more veterans to successfully and efficiently move through the program and into the workforce.

This bipartisan legislation was introduced by Representatives Dexter (D-OR), Messmer (R-IN), McGarvey (D-KY), and Van Orden (R-WI).

Supporting Organizations: Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)