

From: [Raughter, John B.](#)
To: [All Legion Leadership](#)
Subject: Media Alert: American Legion National Commander Calls for Accountability in Washington
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)



*****MEDIA ALERT*****

**American Legion National Commander
Calls for Accountability in Washington**

*Leader of Nation's Largest Veterans Organization Warns Congress
More Action is Desperately Needed for Service Members*

WHEN: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 10:00 am
WHERE: Room #216, Hart Senate Office Building – Capitol Hill
Constitution Avenue & 2nd Street NE, Washington, DC 20002

WHO: Dale Barnett, National Commander of The American Legion, will represent the organization's nearly 2.2 million veteran members when he speaks to lawmakers about Washington's continuing inability to solve problems, achieve accountability and restore trust among the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces.

**The general public will be also weighing in on social media using
#Accountable2Veterans.**

WHAT: Commander Barnett's testimony in a joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs, will point out that government **accountability** to veterans remains lacking amid scandals, the inability to discipline poor-performing executives, managers and employees and other unsolved problems affecting veterans.

The American Legion is demanding accountability and action on:

- Timely, quality VA health care no matter where a veteran lives
- Efficient 21st century medical records connecting DoD and VA
- Support services for veterans transitioning to civilian life
- Job training and placement assistance
- The growing number of VA claims appeals and remanded cases

LEAD-UP: **Legislative Rally – Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 8:00 am – 11:30 am**

**In preparation, the Commander will hold a rally with hundreds of Legion members,
to encourage and prepare them to take important veteran policy issues to**

Members of Congress. Guest speakers include Sen Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., Rep. Tim Waltz, D-Minn., and Deputy VA Secretary Sloan Gibson. Sen. Isakson will receive Distinguished Service Award for his unwavering commitment to veterans.

**Washington Hilton Hotel - International Ballrooms, Concourse Level
1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009**

INTERVIEWS AVAILABE UPON REQUEST

- National Commander of the American Legion Dale Barnett
- Veteran members of The American Legion

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