



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Voices for Non-Opioid Choices Applauds the Reintroduction of the NOPAIN for Veterans Act

Washington, DC (July 17, 2024) – Today, a group of bipartisan leaders in the House, - Representatives Landsman (D-OH), Van Orden (R-WI), Pappas (D-NH), Bergman (R-MI), Hamadeh (R-AZ), and Sewell (D-AL) -introduced the *NOPAIN for Veterans Act*. This landmark legislation will ensure that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will make available all non-opioid pain management therapies approved by the FDA. Passing this bill will ensure that Veterans receiving care at a VA facility will not be denied access to the non-addictive therapies they may require.¹

Tens of thousands of veterans are impacted by overdoses each year, and nearly half of combat wounded veterans report misusing prescription opioids.² Ensuring access to and use of non-addictive options to treat acute pain could help alleviate this crisis. Congress should act immediately to pass the bi-partisan NOPAIN for Veterans Act, which would expand access to safe, FDA-approved nonopioid pain management options for veterans and their families under VA health care.

“It is imperative that members of the military and their families receive unrestrained access to non-addictive pain therapies regardless of where they are treated,” said **Chris Fox, Executive Director of Voices for Non-Opioid Choices**. “I hope that Congress takes this bill up with haste to ensure that our VA Facilities are offering all clinically proven safe and effective therapies to treat acute pain—our veterans deserve a choice in how they manage their pain.”

The legislation enjoys widespread support and has also been endorsed by 13 Veteran Service Organizations, including:

¹ Science Direct. Opioid and sedative misuse among veterans wounded in combat. January 2019

² Drug and Alcohol Dependence. Veteran drug overdose mortality, 2010–2019. April 2022.

- Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Minority Veterans of America
- Association of VA Anesthesiologists
- National Guard Association of the United States
- Air Force Sergeants Association
- Combat Infantryman's Association
- Non-Commissioned Officers Association
- Association of VA Nurse Anesthesiologists
- Jewish War Veterans of the USA
- United States Soldiers and Sailors of America
- Nurses Organization of Veteran Affairs
- Soldier Strong

About Voices for Non-Opioid Choices

Voices for Non-Opioid Choices is a nonpartisan coalition dedicated to preventing opioid addiction before it starts by increasing patient and provider access to non-opioid therapies and approaches to manage acute pain. For more information, visit www.nonopioidchoices.org.

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