

ISSUES FOR CSA RETIREE COUNCIL 2003

ISSUE I: CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF DOD RETIRED PAY AND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DISABILITY COMPENSATION: further the concept of equity between military retirees and other federal retirees by supporting the concurrent receipt of Department of Defense retired pay and Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation.

ISSUE II: MEDICAL CARE (No Forced Choice): Support on going efforts to enhance cooperation between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs health care systems that preserve or improve the health care benefits for all beneficiary groups including military retirees, without forcing them to make an irrevocable choice between the two systems.

ISSUE III: DIRECT DEPOSIT TO FOREIGN BANKS: Urge DFAS to implement expeditiously a direct deposit system for surviving spouses residing in foreign countries to have their annuity checks deposited in foreign banks in the same manner Social Security recipients have enjoyed for some time.

ISSUE IV: DENTAL INSURANCE FOR OCONUS RETIREES: Expand the retiree Dental insurance program to permit beneficiaries residing outside of CONUS to enroll and receive care overseas.

ISSUE V: MILITARY POSTAL SUPPORT FOR RETIREES OVERSEAS(16-Ounce postal Limit): Support efforts to raise the DOD-imposed weight limits.

ISSUE VI: OCONUS RECEIPT OF ARMY ECHOES: Renew efforts to identify problems with retiree receipt of official mailings especially, but not limited to, those with foreign mailing addresses. Continue to support with sufficient resources the educational efforts necessary to address program such as TRICARE for Life, separation incentives, SBP, and bonuses. Target audiences should not only include those who have already retired and those who are about to retire, but also in education upon retirement.

ISSUE VII: TROOPS TO TEACHERS PROGRAM OVERSEAS: Urge expansion to DODDS schools overseas of the program that provides incentives to encourage former service members to pursue careers in education upon retirement.