



FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
20540 FALCONS LANDING CIRCLE, #P1  
POTOMAC FALLS, VIRGINIA 20165



## **Falcons Landing Chapter Legislative Report** **June 2020**

### **VIRGINIA:**

**\*"All politics is local" was a phrase associated with the late House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill. Virginia Republicans will have the opportunity to go to the polls on June 23<sup>rd</sup> – OR PREFERABLY vote absentee, which is highly recommended. The Democrats, who happen to be the incumbents in this election cycle, will run unopposed. Request for an absentee ballot must be received by 5pm, on June 16<sup>th</sup>, and you may request such a ballot online at: [www.elections.virginia.gov/forms](http://www.elections.virginia.gov/forms) or just pick up a request form in our mailroom! All ballots must be postmarked not later than June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The candidates are:**

**\*For Senate-**

**Alissa Baldwin; Daniel Gade; Thomas Speciale, II;  
(opposing incumbent Democrat Sen Mark Warner)**

**\*The procedure for selecting a Republican opponent to incumbent 10<sup>th</sup> District Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton will be very different. A convention will be held on June**

**20<sup>th</sup>, with DELEGATES deciding the Republican nominee. There are 4 candidates: Alicia Andrews, Jeffrey A. Dove Jr, Rob Jones, Matthew Truong. You can find their biographies online at <https://Ballotpedia.org>. It wouldn't be a bad idea to check out who is nominated. One of these four will be running for a seat in Congress in November.**

### **VETERANS:**

**\*The Covid crisis permeates all that is current on the Hill. Let's start with the Children's Care Protection Act (S.1034 & HR.2094) supported, not only by MOAA, but also by 33 other veteran organizations. The purpose of these bills is to enhance medical coverage for those young adult children of disabled veterans who did not qualify for TRICARE. In the current climate, health care is of paramount concern and, as always, MOAA is in on the front lines for our members.**

### **ARLINGTON:**

**\* May I respectfully invite your attention to the June 2020 edition of the MOAA Magazine, pages 16-18, which cover the latest Army proposals for changes to burial eligibility at Arlington National Cemetery. Nothing is set in stone (oh dear); however, there will be new**

requirements and the Congress can be expected to be watching this issue.

**DOD:**

**\*Senior Pentagon officials have made the news recently, some in ways they may not have envisioned. The Joint Chief's Chairman and the Secretary of Defense have both initially turned down requests from the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) to testify regarding recent issues of civil-military affairs, especially utilization of National Guard troops in Washington. That won't sit well. You can pretty-well guess that the welfare of the National Defense Authorization bill for 2021 could be a battering ram to force compliance.**

**\*On a far brighter note, the newly confirmed Chief of Staff of the Air Force is General Charles Q. Brown, the first African-American service chief. Congratulations, Sir.**

**\*The Pentagon will ask Congress for Billions (with a "B") of dollars to reimburse federal contractors who faced sudden expenses because of the pandemic. With some agencies allowed to place critical employees on paid leave, to avoid lay-off, the bill is likely to be too large to pay out of the existing budget. An exact figure is not currently available.**

## **IN CLOSING:**

**I saw a rather perplexing headline, some time ago, in which the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) urged federal agencies to include military spouses . . . and former inmates . . . in their hiring strategies. Think about that!**

**I would like to personally thank those of you who took the time to email, write, or call your legislators regarding the military medical personnel drawdown that we highlighted last month. Particularly, I appreciate those of you who were kind to let me know that you had received a response.**

**WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**Clair Wylie  
Legislative Liaison**