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## *House of Representatives*

# Veterans Shouldn't Have to Pay for Their Disabilities

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FILNER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to express my support for the so-called concurrent receipt provision in the Senate Defense Authorization Act that would allow all disabled military retirees to receive both their military retired pay and their VA disability compensation. As we know, current law requires that the two are offset so, in effect, our disabled veterans are paying for their own disability! We must correct this unfair practice.

I am extremely dismayed with the word we have been hearing that the Administration is threatening to veto this bill if this concurrent receipt provision is included. Thousands of our disabled veterans are being cheated out of the pensions and

disability compensation they have earned and that are their due!

I urge all members to, first, support concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation and, then, to contact the President and impress upon him the importance of this legislation.

Disabled veterans did not hesitate when called to serve. Disabled veterans returned home with wounds they did not have when they were called to duty. It is imperative that we meet our obligation to these brave men and women who have given so much to our nation. Please do what is right and support concurrent receipt.