

# JERRY MORAN

## Joint Hearing: Legislative Presentation of Multiple Veteran Service Organizations

(AXPOW, PVA, SVA, GSW, MOAA, FRA, IAVA)

*Opening Remarks of U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.)*

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.

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*As Prepared for Delivery:*

I want to welcome the seven organizations here to testify before us today.

I appreciate the work you do in supporting our nation's veterans and the working relationship our Committees share with each organization represented here.

Before I begin, I would like to extend a special welcome to those who traveled here from Kansas today. Can you all please stand or raise your hand?

Thank you to all of you for being here today.

I'll keep my remarks brief, so that we can jump right in to hear the priorities of all of the VSOs represented today.

However, I do want to mention veteran suicide prevention, my top priority as Chairman.

As you all know, I have worked closely with Senator Tester on a comprehensive suicide prevention bill, S.785, the *Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act*, which was recently reported favorably out of our Senate Committee unanimously.

S.785 is a multi-faceted approach to suicide prevention, and I would like to thank the VSOs for their input, work and support on this critical piece of legislation.

From implementation of the MISSION Act and appropriate action on the toxic exposure issue, to ensuring the families of our fallen heroes are cared for, please know that you continue to have our commitment to support the veterans all across America that your organizations represent.

I look forward to your presentations and our discussion today, and I look forward to continuing to work together to improve the health care, benefits and services provided to our nation's veterans.

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