

Expediting the Application Process for Veterans' Benefits

- Some senior veterans and their spouses living in Adult Care Facilities (ACFs) and assisted living entities are eligible for Aid and Attendance benefits, a benefit administered by the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA).
- These benefits support people who do not have sufficient funds to offset some of the cost of living in an ACF or assisted living setting.
- The processing of applications is currently taking up to two years, leaving the senior in a precarious position, relying on the willingness of the adult care or assisted living facility to subsidize their care until the benefit is instituted.
- Few providers can afford to subsidize residents in this manner, resulting in low-income veterans and their spouses moving into nursing homes—usually on Medicaid, unnecessarily.
- Urge the VA to expedite the processing of applications for veteran's benefits to ensure that veterans and their spouses receive the services they need, when they need them.