



SENATE VOTES FOR RYAN-MURRAY BUDGET THAT CUTS VETERAN PENSIONS



by MIKE FLYNN (/COLUMNISTS/MIKE-FLYNN) | 18 Dec 2013

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On Wednesday, the Senate voted 64-36 to pass the budget deal negotiated by Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA). The deal increases discretionary domestic spending to over \$1 trillion a year, by eliminating most the the sequester cuts. The deal pays for the spending hike through increased user fees and spending cuts, half of which occur a decade from now. One of the near-term spending cuts, however, is to reduce pension benefits for current veterans and active-duty military.

The Ryan-Murray budget deal hikes federal spending by \$65 billion over the next two years. This spending is "paid for" by an increase in user fees, budget cuts in 2022 and 2023 and small reductions in current spending. One of these reductions is in pension benefits to veterans younger than 62. The budget deal would reduce the yearly cost-of-living adjustments for these military veterans. It would even impact those veterans who were forced to retire due to injuries sustained in the service of our country.

As my colleague Matt Boyle reported (<http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2013/12/18/Ryan-s-committee-scrubs-documents-to-erase-false-claim-disable-vets-pension-exempt-from-cuts>), House GOP leaders knew that the pension changes would impact wounded warriors days before the first vote on the budget deal. Amazingly, there was no attempt in the House to change this provision.

In the Senate, Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions tried on Tuesday to amend this provision. He sought to repeal the changes to military pensions and also eliminate a welfare program benefitting illegal immigrants. The Senate, unfortunately, voted to uphold the illegal immigrant welfare program and cut veterans' pensions.

The GOP establishment, with its assault on military pensions, won this budget battle. It

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ought, however, to lose the war.

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**Mardad** • 13 days ago

The voting list will reveal the ones that need primaried! This "budget" is a travesty of justice!

108 | 2 • Reply • Share ›

**barak barak** → Mardad • 13 days ago

I read the title, I just had a big WOW. I read the article, and try google, it is true.

30 | 1 • Reply • Share ›

**buzzyjames** → barak barak • 13 days ago

And how do Vets feel about McCain now? All those that voted for the bill just cut the throats of active military while court marshaling a marine for warning his fellow marines. End result?

97 | 1 • Reply • Share ›

**Scientia Veritas** → buzzyjames • 13 days ago

They had plenty of money for corporate welfare. Can't we cut the money going to Egypt, Israel, or Pakistan instead? Pakistan was harboring Bin Laden and we give them money that is used to make nukes? In what reality is it a good idea to provide a Muslim country that harbors terrorists, the means to make more nukes? You can't make this up, I dare you to try.

73 | 1 • Reply • Share ›

**Areminder** → Scientia Veritas • 12 days ago

Did you notice they sought to protect the retirement of [government retirees] at the same time they robbed the military?

45 | 1 • Reply • Share ›

**chankermehanicFMF2nd** → Areminder • 12 days ago

Especially civil "servants" in D.C. plus the fire and police depts.also eligible after 20 years.

Sorry about calling them servants. They are the slavers and the taxpayers the slaves, to corruption and corrupt politicians.

25 | 1 • Reply • Share ›



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**Stan Carter** → Teresa Oliver • 12 days ago

The Senate should do real cuts by eliminating the Department.of Commerce, EPA, and Department of Education. Also eliminate retirement for all federal elected officials. Need to eliminate the Department of Energy. Replace FCC with a computer program to protect the airways. Cut domestic spying in NSA. We will gladly take the added risks.

Never cut our veterans and troops benefits who defend our country and sometimes die for it. Those that serve should know we value them for they are the best of us.

32 | 1 • Reply • Share ›

**RedMeatState** → Stan Carter • 12 days ago

we all know what they should do; they're gonna do what they want

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Congress letting billions in tax breaks expire at year's end (<http://feeds.foxnews.com/~r/foxnews/politics/~3/cXIGvEzxtg4/>)

31 Dec 2013, 1:40 AM PDT

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31 Dec 2013, 1:15 AM PDT

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Evans' jumper lifts Pelicans over Blazers (http://feeds.foxnews.com/~r/foxnews/sports/~3/fvVZ9r3_cjM/)

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Butler, Boozer lead Bulls over Grizzlies (<http://feeds.foxnews.com/~r/foxnews/sports/~3/imOha-DOSNo/>)

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