

Support Military and Veterans

"The foundation of our military lies in the men and women who wear our country's uniform, whether on active duty or in the Reserves and National Guard, and the families who support them. ...The members of our military should be treated with the utmost respect and dignity. ...we believe compensation and conditions for our Armed Forces in place at the time military service is initiated should be sufficient to attract and retain quality men and women as we honor our promises and commitments to veterans, retirees, and their families. ...We support rights of conscience and religious freedom for military chaplains and people of faith. ...We call upon the entire chain of command - from the President and the Secretary of Defense, to base and unit commanders - to ensure that our troops and retired service members, wherever stationed, have the opportunity to vote in the November elections, and that their ballots will be returned in time to be properly counted. Those who fight for and defend freedom around the world must not be disenfranchised. ...The work of the Department of Veterans Affairs...is essential to meet our obligations to them: providing health, education, disability, survivor, and home loan benefit services and arranging memorial services upon death. All its branches must be made more responsive, moving from an adversarial to an advocacy relationship with veterans."

Excerpts from the Republican Party Platform - 2012