

November 2, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) today voted in favor of legislation to increase veterans' benefits including disability payments to veterans with service-connected conditions, additional compensation for dependents, indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children. The rate increase is expected to be 3.6 percent and is the first increase for veterans' benefits in two years.

"Providing first-class benefits to veterans, service members and their families is a top priority of mine," said Congressman Altmire. "For two years, veterans have seen their cost of living increase, but their compensation remained the same. I believe that's unacceptable, and I am committed to making sure these brave men and women aren't forgotten once they return home."

The *Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011*, S. 894, requires an increase in veterans' benefits to be the same percentage as the increase in benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act. The legislation unanimously passed both the House and Senate.