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The bill would require that active duty members and units get a month of rest – ‘dwel time’ – for each month they are deployed while National Guard and reservists would get three months rest for each month deployed.

"If dwell time for our troops is not dramatically increased soon, then we risk doing further damage to our already overburdened troops and their

families. Congresswoman Tauscher's dwell time bill is urgently needed. Veterans for America calls for its speedy passage," Bobby Muller, President, Veterans for America, said.

"The bill that these House members are introducing is simply what was always an unwritten rule, that we in the military always depended on. It's a matter of fairness, it's a matter of caring for our troops, and it's a matter of the strength of our Armed Services," said Brian McGough, an Iraq and Afghanistan Veteran, and Vice Chairman of VoteVets.org. "That's why VoteVets.org supports this bill, and will do whatever we need to do to get it passed."

Multiple deployments in quick succession have taken a toll on the well-being of our troops. In January, more troops died by suicide than were killed on the battlefields in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As Thomas Ricks, a Washington Post reporter, writes in his new book, "The Gamble," the costs have been felt down the line: "The last few years have seen soldiers burning out after repeated tours of duty in the war, with high rates of posttraumatic stress disorder among combat veterans. Rates of suicide and divorce have been increasing. Officers and sergeants are leaving in greater numbers. ... The quality of recruits also has been dropping."

Last year, the House approved Rep. Tauscher's bill, H.R. 3159. Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.) introduced a similar amendment, which garnered 56 votes, falling short of the 60 needed to advance the amendment.

The bill has support from Veterans for America, VoteVets.org, the Military Officers Association of America, the National Military Family Association and the Fleet Reserve Association.

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