

## Helpful Veteran Resources

### VA Los Angeles Regional Office

Federal Building  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
Tel: 1-800-827-1000

### Los Angeles Veteran Center

South Central L.A.  
251 W. 85th Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90003  
Tel: (310) 215-2380

### VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLA)

11301 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90073  
Tel: (310) 478-3711

### East L.A. Veteran Health Clinic

5426 East Olympic Blvd.  
Suite 150  
East Los Angeles, CA 90040  
Tel: (323) 725-7557

### Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center

351 East Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90003  
Tel: (213) 253-5000

### Long Beach VA Center

5901 East 7th Street  
Long Beach, CA 90822  
Tel: (562) 862-8000

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
World Wide Web: <http://www.va.gov>

# Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis

## Veterans' Update

Summer 2002



**C**ONGRESSWOMAN SOLIS presented nine prestigious military awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, to Henry V. Barbosa, a 78-year-old Irwindale hero, during an Irwindale City Council meeting on March 28, 2002 for his service in World War II. Mr. Barbosa flew more than 30 missions over enemy territory as a Waist Gunner aboard a B-17 Bomber. Congresswoman Solis was instrumental in cutting through bureaucracy to acquire the medals Mr. Barbosa deserved 58 years



*Congresswoman Solis presents a flag and a congressional certificate to Mr. Henry Barbosa during a special medals presentation at the Irwindale City Council chamber.*

after his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army. Mr. Barbosa's daughter, Veronica Lara, said, "Congresswoman Solis made a dream come true for my father. Her words were inspirational to my father and to all veterans. She showed us that every single one of her constituents are important to her."

### Congresswoman Solis' Offices Are Here to Serve You

El Monte  
4401 Santa Anita Ave., Suite 211  
El Monte, CA 91731  
(626) 448-1271  
(626) 448-8062 FAX

East Los Angeles  
4716 César Chávez Ave., Bldg. A  
East Los Angeles, CA 90022  
(323) 307-9904  
(323) 307-9906 FAX

Washington, D.C.  
1641 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5464  
(202) 225-5467 FAX

*Hilda L. Solis*

M.C.  
PRSRT STD

Dear Veteran,

I want to take this opportunity to provide an update on several important pieces of veteran-related legislation that I helped pass in Congress and were signed into law this past year. I will continue to push for the passage of bills that help the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms. Our nation's veterans and service members need to know that the well being of their families will be taken care of while they sacrifice so much.

**Veterans' Survivor Benefits Improvement Act (H.R. 801)**—Adds \$100 million in new health care benefits for surviving spouses of veterans and extends life insurance coverage to spouses and children of service members.

**Veterans' Education and Benefits Expansion Act (H.R. 291)**—Authorizes more than \$3.1 billion for education, housing, burial and disability benefits.

**Veterans' Compensation Rate Amendments (H.R. 2540)**—Boosts compensation payments for disabled veterans by \$2.4 billion over the next five years by providing a 2.6% Cost of Living Adjustment for disability compensation.

**Homeless Veterans' Comprehensive Assistance Act (H.R. 2716)**—Authorizes \$1 billion to aid homeless veterans and prevent homelessness.

Very Truly Yours,

*Hilda L. Solis*

Hilda L. Solis  
Member of Congress

# Military Academy Appointments



**E**ACH YEAR, Members of Congress are able to appoint qualified young individuals to the Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines military academies.



If you know of a high school or college student who may be interested in learning more about the various military academies, please advise them to contact Rep. Solis' El Monte office at (626) 448-1271. **The application deadline is November 1, 2002.**



*Congresswoman Solis speaks with Rudy Hernandez, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, about his service to our country at a Memorial Day event sponsored by AMVETS-Post 113.*



*Congresswoman Solis discusses veterans' issues with Councilmember Frank Venti, Commander A.E. Galaviz and Councilmember David Lau at a veterans' event in Monterey Park.*



*On September 29, 2001, Congresswoman Solis joined Councilmember Ernie Gutierrez, Mayor Rachel Montes, Councilmember Jack Thurston, and Councilmember Art Barrios at the Grand Opening of La Historia Society Museum, where she recognized the important contributions veterans in El Monte have made.*

**O**N SEPTEMBER 18, 2001, Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis led a flag raising ceremony in honor of the heroes and loved ones affected by the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack on the United States. Congresswoman Solis gathered with veterans, fire fighters, police officers, seniors, members of the Garfield High School R.O.T.C , students and local residents at the Dr. Donald Newman Flag Pole in El Sereno. Residents gathered to pay respect and to remember the sacrifices made on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Congresswoman Solis said during the event, "Memorial Day is a time to pay tribute to all our fallen heroes and their families." A new MIA flag was also raised and dedicated in memory of all missing service men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces.



*Congresswoman Solis, Captain Paul S. Pesqueira LAPD, Captain Jobe Leon LAFD 47 and Michael Romero, Honorary Mayor of El Sereno place a memorial wreath in remembrance of the September 11 attacks at the Dr. Donald Newman Memorial in El Sereno.*