

A Statement from VFW National **Commander Thien**

It's time to put duty before politics

Oct 10, 2013

Yesterday, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki, confirmed what we already knew. Millions of veterans and their dependents are on the verge of disaster unless elected officials are willing to put their own pride and political interests aside and focus on their duty.

Those who have borne the burden of battle are now endangered by the very political system they vowed to protect. If our veterans had acted similarly while in uniform, there is a good chance that we would now be flying a flag of a different color.

The benefits and entitlements now threatened to be delayed because of the political nonsense and gamesmanship occurring in Washington were earned by those who put country and duty first.

It's time for our elected officials to follow their example and do the same. Take action now.

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