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## **House Passes Record Increases in 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)

“Under the new Democratic Leadership, Congress fulfilled its commitment to

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill:

- Increases the VA budget by \$6.7 billion above the FY07 level and
- Ensures quality health care for 5.8 million patients, including about
- Significantly reduces the 400,000 claims backlog for veterans waiting
- Provides increased funding for maintenance of VA health care facilities
- Provides \$2.9 billion in military housing and \$2.8 billion to increase

This bill was strongly supported by all the major veterans groups, including