



(March 28, 2016)

In order to further improve the lines of communication and to respond to the concerns between the National VA Council and you our members, I have established a National VA Council Briefing. This NVAC Briefing will bring you the latest news and developments within DVA and provide you with the current status of issues this Council is currently addressing. I believe that this NVAC Briefing will greatly enhance the way in which we communicate and the way in which we share new information, keeping you better informed.

Alma L. Lee
National VA Council, President

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**In This Briefing: Republican budget blueprint targets feds again**

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According to a report on the House Budget Committee's fiscal 2017 proposed budget, Republican lawmakers are continuing efforts to both shrink the federal workforce, and cut federal pay and benefits, [Government Executive](#) reports.

The budget plan proposes to reduce non-defense discretionary agency by \$887 billion below sequester levels through fiscal 2026, the article said. Among other things, agencies would need to trim their workforces through attrition to accommodate those cuts.

Moreover, the budget proposal would require employees to contribute the same amount to their pensions as their agencies do. That would have the same effect as a 2 percent to 5 percent pay cut, the article noted.

