

## **The Honorable Patrick J. Murphy**

Patrick J. Murphy began serving our nation at age 19, when he enlisted in the United States Army ROTC program at the University of Scranton. For the past 28 years, in one role after another, he has maintained that commitment to serve—as a soldier, as the first Iraq War Veteran elected to Congress, as the Under Secretary and Acting Secretary of the Army, and as a champion for Veterans’ issues with an extensive background in health care management and innovation.



As the member of a military family, Patrick understands both the challenges facing previous generations of Veterans and the experiences of his fellow service members who came of age during the post-9/11 era. Today, he brings a vision focused on innovation, efficiency, and accountability to shaping the future of Veterans’ advocacy and empowerment.

Patrick’s leadership harnesses the power of public, private, and nonprofit partners to support Veterans in finding jobs, starting businesses, and securing quality health care and mental health services. His mission is to help provide all of America’s 20 million Veterans—including the more than nine million who rely on the Department of Veterans Affairs—with the opportunity to realize stability and success.

### **Serving Our Nation—and Those Who Served**

Patrick was born into a family of Veterans. His father Jack served in the Navy, his uncles Joe and Bill served in Vietnam, and his brother J.J. served in the Air Force, with two post-9/11 overseas deployments.

Patrick continued this tradition, graduating from the Army’s Airborne and Air Assault courses. After obtaining his law degree, he joined the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps. He would serve two deployments following September 11th—the first to Bosnia in 2002 and the second to Iraq from 2003 through 2004 as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. He received a Bronze Star for his service in Iraq, which included leading a Brigade Operational Law Team and successfully prosecuting two high-level terrorists in the Supreme Court of Iraq.

In 2006, the people of Pennsylvania’s 1st congressional district elected Patrick to the House of Representatives, as America’s first Iraq Veteran to serve. While in office, Patrick championed his brother and sister Veterans in co-sponsoring the post 9/11 GI Bill, authoring the repeal of Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, establishing the Washington Crossing National Veterans Cemetery for more than 300,000 former service members, and co-sponsored the Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act—a law that continues to provide 24-hour mental health care for at-risk Veterans.

President Barack Obama would later appoint Patrick as the 32<sup>nd</sup> Under Secretary and later Acting Secretary of the Army. At the Pentagon, Patrick built upon the expertise in health care policy he developed in Congress and oversaw the Army's entire health care system—which includes 8 medical centers, 11 hospitals, and hundreds of local clinics. As Chief Management Officer, he led a \$4.3 billion overhaul of the Army's medical records and helped the Army save \$1.7 billion in costs by streamlining its operations. He also forged innovative partnerships with groups like Major League Baseball and 20th Century Fox that generated more than \$250 million in savings and raised the Army's profile among the American public. Patrick also implemented the world's largest intranet platform—Army Knowledge Online 2.0—allowing soldiers to seamlessly access their medical, training, and education records.

### **Innovating and Advocating on Behalf of Service Members**

After leaving the Pentagon, Patrick continued to leverage talents and resources from across our society to strengthen America's military and support its service members.

As an experienced health care leader, Patrick chairs the Government Advisory Board of the Cerner Corporation, which is currently working with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to modernize its electronic health records. This initiative—the largest health care transformation in the VA's history—allows our government to more easily share patients' medical information with their doctors, therapists, pharmacies, and other care providers while also safeguarding their privacy. Ultimately, this will lead to a much more Veteran-focused experience for VA enrollees.

Patrick also serves as a strategic advisor to Northwell Health, the largest health provider for Veterans in New York State outside the VA. In 2019, he helped raise over \$1 million for Northwell Health Military Services for their celebration of service event during New York Fleet Week.

Since 2017, Patrick has also acted as the Distinguished Chair for Innovation and Strategic Engagement at the United States Military Academy at West Point. In this role, he brings together top officials in government, academia, think tanks, national research laboratories, media, cyber security, and professional sports to help the Army train and develop its next generation of leaders.

Patrick firmly believes that many Veterans possess the drive, determination, and poise to thrive as entrepreneurs; all they need is the right opportunity. That is why he serves as a general partner at Stony Lonesome Group, a venture capital firm that provides seed funding to companies owned or managed by Veterans. More than 90% of the firm's investments—which total \$12 million—support the dreams of “Vetrepreneurs.”

Patrick's leadership at Stony Lonesome is just one example of his efforts to advance economic opportunity for Veterans. As a board member of the PsychArmor Institute and an ambassador for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's *Hire Our Heroes* initiative, he promoted Veteran education, recruitment, and retention efforts at companies such as Comcast, Toyota, and Microsoft.

## **Amplifying the Voices of Veterans**

Throughout his career, Patrick has used his public platform to share the experiences of America's service members and Veterans. From 2013 to 2015, he hosted the MSNBC series *Taking the Hill*, which highlighted the struggles and resilience of wounded Veterans and their families.

Patrick is also the founder of Taking the Hill Productions, a media company that creates and shares powerful stories about Veterans. Its projects include *Triumph Games*, a CBS program where ten disabled Veterans competed at elite levels to overcome extreme physical and mental challenges.

In 2020, Patrick partnered with the Life Aid Research Institute and broadcaster Al Roker to develop *Life Aid: A Story of Hope*. This national TV special, which aired on the Discovery Network, profiled Veterans, first responders, and law enforcement officers recovering from mental trauma suffered in the line of duty.

*Life Aid* builds upon Patrick's longstanding efforts to address the urgent need of advancing mental health care for Veterans. He has witnessed this challenge firsthand among his own friends from the Army—and adamantly campaigned to erase the stigma of seeking mental health treatment within the military during his tenure with the Obama administration. Now, he maintains this commitment as a founding board member of Psych Hub, an online video platform that produces vital resources and educational content to raise awareness around mental health.

Moving forward, Patrick will continue to act as a leading voice for Veterans and service members on issues such as expanding health care and mental health support, suicide prevention, modernizing our military's operations, and giving more Veterans the chance to thrive in our economy. In every role he has taken on—and will in the future—Patrick is guided by his commitment to serve his country.

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