



T H E M I L I T A R Y C O A L I T I O N

201 North Washington Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 838-8113

February 14, 2006

The Honorable Michael Bilirakis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bilirakis,

The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of uniformed services and veterans associations representing more than 5.5 million current and former servicemembers and their families and survivors, is writing to express our strong support of your bill, H.R. 1462, which would lower the age at which survivors in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) can retain this benefit on remarriage.

In 2003 Congress changed the law to allow eligible military survivors to retain DIC from the Veterans Administration upon remarriage after age 57. TMC's goal remains age 55 in order to bring this benefit in line with rules for the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and other federal survivor benefits. H.R. 1462 would lower the age requirement from 57 to 55.

H.R. 1462 is a very positive step in providing fair treatment to military survivors entitled to DIC. The TMC thanks you for your leadership on this issue and pledges our support in seeking enactment of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition  
(signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association  
Air Force Sergeants Association  
Air Force Women Officers Associated  
AMVETS (American Veterans)  
Army Aviation Association of America  
Association of Military Surgeons of the United States  
Association of the United States Army  
Chief Warrant Officer and Warrant Officer Association, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States  
Fleet Reserve Association  
Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.  
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America  
Marine Corps League  
Marine Corps Reserve Association  
Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America  
Military Officers Association of America  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
National Association for Uniformed Services  
National Guard Association of the United States  
National Military Family Association  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association  
Naval Reserve Association  
Navy League of the United States  
Reserve Officers Association  
Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces  
The Retired Enlisted Association  
United Armed Forces Association  
United States Army Warrant Officers Association  
United States Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Veterans' Widows International Network