



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

March 13, 2007

The Honorable Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Landrieu:

The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of nationally prominent uniformed services, veteran and family organizations representing more than 5.5 million current and former members of the seven services, plus their families and survivors, is writing to express our strong support for your bill, S.384, the Hope at Home Act, that would establish tax incentives for employers of mobilized reservists and for other purposes.

Our nation's Guard and Reserve members are asked to make many sacrifices. Sometimes these sacrifices are magnified when a Reserve Component (RC) member must leave a family at home if deployed.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that that 41 percent of Reservists suffer income loss following mobilization. Your bill addresses the need for a pay differential, and recognizes that patriotic employers often are willing to pay the difference. They shouldn't be expected to bear this liability alone.

TMC is particularly supportive of the bill's provisions that create deserved tax credits for these dedicated employers who make up the difference in pay for their National Guard and Reserve employees who are called into federal service. S.384 also eliminates a technical problem that precludes employers from contributing to their mobilized employees' company retirement plans while the RC members are serving their country.

TMC thanks you for your leadership in introducing this legislation, and your support for a strong and viable National Guard and Reserve. Providing help to our nation's citizen-warriors and their patriotic employers is the right thing to do under these prolonged wartime conditions.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(Signature Enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants Association
Air Force Women Officers Associated
American Logistics Association
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
National Order of Battlefield Commissions
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association
Naval Reserve Association
Navy League of the United States
Non Commissioned Officers Association
Reserve Enlisted Association of the United States
Reserve Officers Association
Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces
The Retired Enlisted 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