



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

May 19, 2008

The Honorable Thelma Drake
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Drake:

The Military Coalition, a consortium of nationally prominent military and veterans organizations, representing more than 5.5 million current and former service members and their families and survivors, thanks you for introducing H.R. 5797, "The Roth Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Act of 2008."

Roth 401(k) accounts would offer another level of diversity for TSP contributors in that they provide an "after tax" contribution alternative that would yield tax free withdrawals in retirement as opposed to the traditional tax-deferred TSP accounts.

About 10-15% of employers offer Roth 401(k) accounts and Congress made the authority to offer them permanently in 2006. We believe the federal government should be on the cutting edge and provide its hard-working employees as many options as possible for their retirement planning purposes.

The "Thrift Savings Plan Participant Survey Results 2006-07" as presented to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board in November 2007 indicates that a majority (60%) of plan participants agree that TSP would be a better program if a Roth 401(k) option was offered. Further, strongest interest in a Roth 401(k) plan was voiced from members in the uniformed services.

Therefore, the Coalition strongly supports H.R. 5797. You are a true champion for members of the uniformed services and we will work closely with you to achieve utmost co-sponsorship.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Women Officers Associated
American Logistics Association
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 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