



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

July 10, 2009

The Honorable Blanche Lincoln
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mary Landrieu
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lincoln and Senator Landrieu:

The Military Coalition, a consortium of nationally prominent uniformed services and veterans associations representing approximately 5.5 million current and former service members and their families and survivors, is writing to express our appreciation and strong support for The Selected Reserve Continuum of Care Act, S.1106. This legislation would better ensure that health assessments for members of the Selected Reserve are followed by government treatment to correct any medical or dental readiness deficiencies that could impact their deployability.

In addition to expanded medical and dental care, the Department of Defense must ensure the National Guard and Reserve maintains a heightened state of medical readiness to better support both wartime contingency and domestic response operations and deployments, some of which may have short notice.

Medical and dental readiness deficiencies often require cross-leveling of Guard and Reserve members from other units who may be called for duty with as little as two or three weeks notice. This cross-leveling process imposes risks to unit cohesion as well as substantial hardships for the cross-leveled member, families and employers.

S.1106 would ensure that periodic health assessments now required annually for the Selected Reserve, would be followed by government funded treatment to correct any required medical or dental readiness deficiencies discovered during the screenings.

The Military Coalition applauds you for sponsoring S. 1106 and we recommend that you offer it as a Floor Amendment in upcoming consideration of the Senate's version of the FY

2010 National Defense Authorization Act.

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
Association of the United States Navy
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.
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America
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
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