



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

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June 2, 2010

The Honorable Kay Hagan
Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hagan:

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, would like to thank you for introducing S. 3406, the *Reserve Retirement Deployment Credit Correction Act*.

S. 3406 would correct a gross inequity on the crediting of active duty service performed by reservists for early retirement purposes.

Under current DoD policy, reservists may only be credited for 90 days or more cumulative active duty service performed within a fiscal year. S. 3406 would permit "rollover" credit of qualifying active duty service of 90 days or more from year to year throughout a Guard or Reserve career.

TMC is most appreciative of the provision in the FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that authorizes Guard and Reserve members to begin receiving retired pay earlier than age 60 for qualifying active duty service performed after 28 January 2008.

The intent of the early reserve retirement provision was to reduce the retirement age for time spent deployed by 3 months for every 90 days spent on active duty over the course of one's career. However, many members of the Guard and Reserve are losing retirement credit for some or all of their deployments, due to a technicality that only periods of service totaling 90 days served entirely within a fiscal year may count towards an earlier retirement.

Over 770,000 Reserve Components members have been called to active duty in support of OIF/OEF missions since September 11, 2001. Under DoD's "operational reserve" policy, the reserve forces are expected to play a central role in all U.S. military operations at home and overseas. Improving their reserve retirement compensation should continue to be modernized to help retain those willing to meet these arduous demands. Ensuring Reserve component members do not lose credit for early retirement is critical to morale and career retention.

Thank you for your support of our nation's operational Guard and Reserve men and women.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(Signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants 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