



June 25, 2024

The Honorable Mike Bost  
Chairman  
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
By e-mail

The Honorable Jon Tester  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
By e-mail

The Honorable Mark Takano  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
By e-mail

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
By e-mail

Dear Chairmen Bost and Tester and Ranking Members Takano and Moran:

The Military Coalition (TMC), representing more than 5.5 million service members, veterans, their families, and survivors, urges your support for swiftly codifying H.R.7543/S.3873, the *Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2024*, in public law.

Under current law, Reserve and National Guard members can accrue “qualifying days” toward receiving the Post-9/11 GI Bill if they have served at least 90 cumulative or 30 continuous days on active duty and are discharged with a service-connected disability or awarded the Purple Heart after September 10, 2001.

These citizen-warriors must perform their duty responsibilities for a minimum of 39 days each Fiscal Year (24 inactive duty training days and 15 days of active duty in annual tour status). Unfortunately, these duty days *do not* count towards Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility.

Drill weekends and annual tours are increasing in scale and significance as the Reserve Components are more frequently relied on. Recent examples include joint training operations showcasing the capabilities of our reserve force. Unfortunately, the strides in achieving component interoperability (particularly since the beginning of the Global War on Terrorism) have been far greater than the strides in equitably rewarding personnel for the effort and skillset required to achieve such interoperability.

In many instances, for the same training day, it is possible for an Active Component member to receive Post-9/11 Bill credit whereas a Reserve Component member would not. The *Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2024* is *bi-cameral, bi-partisan* legislation that resolves this disparity by allowing Reserve Component members to accrue all paid points days toward receiving the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

The GI Bill has been a proven investment with a tangible R.O.I. Facing the most significant recruiting challenge in the history of the All-Volunteer Force, the time to invest in our current and prospective Reserve Component service members and their families is *now*. Thank you for your consideration of this request. TMC looks forward to working with you on this and other areas of mutual interest.

Respectfully,

Jack Du Teil  
President  
The Military Coalition

The Military Coalition:

Air and Space Forces Association (AFA)

Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA)

American Veterans (AMVETS)

Association of the U.S. Navy (AUSN)

Blue Star Families (BSF)

Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service (COA)

USCG Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA)

Chief Warrant Officers Association of the U.S. Coast Guard (CWOA)

Fleet Reserve Association (FRA)

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)

Jewish War Veterans of America (JWV)

Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America (MCA)

Marine Corps League (MCL)

Marine Corps Reserve Association (MCRA)

Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA)

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA)

National Military Family Association (NMFA)

Reserve Organization of America (ROA)

Service Women's Action Network (SWAN)

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)

The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)

United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)