



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) 838-8143

June 8, 2018

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

The Military Coalition (TMC), representing more than 5.5 million current and former service members, veterans and their families and survivors, thanks you for Senate Amendment 2411 to repeal the law requiring a dollar-for-dollar deduction of VA benefits for service-connected deaths from the Department of Defense Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities. The elimination of this survivor benefit inequity has been a top legislative priority for TMC for many years.

We strongly believe if military service caused a member's death, the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) the VA pays the survivor should be added to the SBP benefits the disabled retiree paid for, not substituted for them. Those who give their lives for their country deserve equitable compensation for their surviving spouses.

The Military Coalition again thanks you for introducing this important amendment to restore equity to this vital survivor benefit and encourages your colleagues to add their names as cosponsors.

Sincerely,
The Military Coalition

(signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants Association
Air Force Women Officers Associated
AMVETS
Army Aviation Association of America
AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals
Association of the US Army
Association of the United States Navy
Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service, Inc.
CWOA, US Coast Guard
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the US
Fleet Reserve Association
Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America
Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Marine Corps League
Marine Corps Reserve Association
Military Chaplains Association of the USA
Military Officers Association of America
Military Order of the Purple Heart
National Guard Association of the US
National Military Family Association
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association
Non Commissioned Officers Association of The United States of America
Reserve Officers Association
Service Women's Action Network
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
The Retired Enlisted Association
USCG Chief Petty Officers Association
US Army Warrant Officers Association
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vietnam Veterans of America
Wounded Warrior Project