



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

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April 13, 2017

The Honorable Steven Palazzo
U.S. House of Representatives
2349 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tim Walz
U.S. House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen:

The Military Coalition (TMC), representing more than 5.5 million current and former service members and their families and survivors, writes to thank you for cosponsoring HR 1384, the “Reserve Component Benefits Parity Act.”

This important bill would amend titles 5, 10, 37, and 38 of the United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304a and 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the uniformed services and Veterans for certain benefits and for calculating the deadlines for certain benefits.

In so doing, this legislation addresses the areas of healthcare (pre- and post-mobilization), retirement age reduction, education (to include eligibility for the 9/11 GI Bill) as well as vocational training and pay differentials.

Comprehensive in nature, this bill will not only ensure that the brave men and women of the National Guard and other reserve components of the uniformed services receive the benefits they deserve, but it is clearly in the best interests of our uniformed services as a whole, particularly from a recruiting and retention perspective. As our nation contemplates substantial force structure increases, it is crucial to send the message that this nation will uniformly compensate its best and bravest – across all components – with robust and fair pay and benefits. This bill will substantially help to send that message.

The Military Coalition thanks you very much for again championing this nation’s uniformed service members and their families, with this crucial legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact us for clarification of our position on this, or any other issue in the future.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants Association
AMVETS (American Veterans)
Army Aviation Association of America
AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals
Association of the United States Army
Association of the United States Navy
Chief Warrant & Warrant Officers Association, USCG
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
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
Marine Corps League
Marine Corps Reserve Association
Military Officers Association of America
Military Order of the Purple Heart
National Guard Association of the United States
National Military Family Association
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association
Non Commissioned Officers Association
Reserve Officers Association
The Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
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

Military Coalition Letter in re: April 13, 2017