April 13, 2017

The Honorable John Cornyn
U.S. Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Al Franken
U.S. Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

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 S.667, 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)