



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

April 12, 2017

The Honorable Scott Peters
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Rounds
502 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Peters and Senator Rounds:

The Military Coalition, a consortium of uniformed services and veterans associations representing more than 5.5 million current and former service members and their families and survivors, writes to express our support for H.R. 1379 and S. 882. If enacted, this legislation would grant full Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to all Post-9/11 Purple Heart recipients.

Currently, only veterans who either serve at least 36 months on active duty or are medically retired receive Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits at the 100 percent rate. Those who were not medically retired and serve less than 36 months receive only a portion of those benefits on a prorated basis. Unfortunately, this leaves out many Purple Heart recipients, particularly from the Reserve Component, who were wounded on Post-9/11 battlefields, but were activated for less than three years in total.

We strongly believe that any veteran who sheds his or her blood for our country on a Post-9/11 battlefield should be automatically granted the full benefit of the GI Bill that bears the name of the era in which he or she served. Your legislation would make this a reality, extending full Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to all current era Purple Heart recipients, fully honoring their extraordinary sacrifices.

TMC thanks you for your leadership on this issue and your unwavering commitment to veterans and their families. We look forward to working with you to ensure the passage of this important legislation.

Respectfully,

The Military Coalition
(Signatures enclosed)

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants Association
Air Force Women Officers Associated
AMVETS (American Veterans)
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
Service Women's Action Network
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
Vietnam Veterans of America

Military Coalition Letter in re: April 12, 2017