

November 21, 2019

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
Chairman
Committee on Veterans Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jon Tester
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Members of the Committee on Veterans Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Isakson, Ranking Member Tester, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for your many years of strong leadership for America's veterans. We remain indebted to you for all you have accomplished.

For nearly a decade, Veterans and Military Service Organizations have been asking for veterans and other military-connected students to have the same rights as Title IV students.

Thankfully, parity for veterans and military-connected students is finally close to reality with the bipartisan, unanimously-enacted House Veterans Affairs Committee's bill, HR 4625. We are so grateful. Please support HR 4625 in your committee. This important legislation provides the following provisions to support and protect GI Bill students:

- Restores veterans' and military-connected students' education benefits if their school suddenly closes (providing parity with students protected under Title IV);
- Requires schools, not students, to repay tuition overpayments since schools receive tuition funds directly from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) (providing parity with students protected under Title IV);
- Protects veterans' and military-connected students' education benefits from schools terminated by the Education Department (ED). Earlier this year, ED terminated Argosy for stealing Title IV federal student aid, but VA did not have statutory authority to protect veterans' education benefits;
- Requires common-sense oversight of schools following punitive action by federal or state government or the accreditor; and
- Strengthens existing statutes to ensure VA compliance.

We humbly request your leadership to ensure this bill's passage as soon as possible. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this legislation.


We thank you.

Sincerely,



Air Force Association


American Legion


Army Aviation Association of America


Association of the United States Army

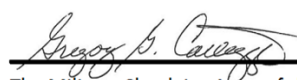

Blue Star Families


Commissioned Officers Assn. of the US Public
Health Service, Inc


Fleet Reserve Association



High Ground Veterans Advocacy


Ivy League Veterans Council


The Military Chaplains Assn. of the USA


Air Force Sergeants Association



AMVETS


AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals



Association of the United States Navy

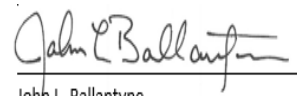

Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association


Disabled American Veterans


Gold Star Wives of America


Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America


Jewish War Veterans of the USA



John L. Ballantyne
Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Military Child Education Coalition


Military Officers Association of America


The Mission Continues


Non Commissioned Officers Assn.
of the United States of America


Service 2 School



Student Veterans of America


Tragedy Assistance Program for
Survivors

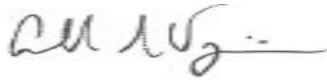

The Retired Enlisted Association


U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers
Association & Enlisted Association

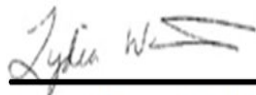

Veterans Education Success



Veterans Student Loan Relief Fund



Military Order of the Purple Heart


National Military Family Association


Paralyzed Veterans of America


Service Women's Action Network


Swords to Plowshares


Travis Manion Foundation


US Army Warrant Officers Association


Veterans for Common Sense


San Diego University Veterans Law Clinic


Veterans of Foreign Wars



VetsFirst, a program of United Spinal Association

Richard F. Weikman
Vietnam Veterans of America