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

AMSUH, 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
The Mission Continues

Service 2 School

Student Veterans of America

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

The Retired Enlisted Association

Veterans Education Success

Veterans Student Loan Relief Fund

Military Officers Association of America

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
VietFirst, a program of United Spinal Association

Vietnam Veterans of America