



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES, INC.

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March 27, 2018

The Honorable Scott Peters
United States House of Representatives
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jack Bergman
United States House of Representatives
414 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Peters and Congressman Bergman,

On behalf of the 45,000 members of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the nearly 500,000 soldiers and airmen of the National Guard, please accept our sincere thanks for your leadership in introducing the Reserve Component Vocational Rehabilitation Parity Act. NGAUS strongly supports this bill.

The Reserve Component Vocational Rehabilitation Parity Act is a commonsense, bipartisan solution to provide Guardsmen and Reservists, who deploy under 12304b orders, the ability to extend their eligibility in the Veterans Affairs (VA) Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) services. The proposed legislation aims to remove the current 12-year cap on servicemembers access to VR&E services, which assist our Guardsmen with job training, resume development, and job-seeking skills coaching.

Your proposed legislation will significantly help to correct the numerous benefits not afforded to members of the National Guard under 12304b orders. Furthermore, the Reserve Component Vocational Rehabilitation Parity Act strives to aid Guardsmen as they make the transition from the military to civilian careers.

We urge the passage of this vitally important bill to ensure benefit parity for Guardsmen while simultaneously providing them tools for success in their post-military careers. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staffs to ensure the passage of the Reserve Component Vocational Rehabilitation Parity Act. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the men and women of the National Guard.

Sincerely,

J. Roy Robinson
Brigadier General (Ret.)
President, NGAUS