



Alston Wilkes Society Corporate Office
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Rebuilding Lives for a Safer Community

www.alstonwilkessociety.org

June 14, 2023

Dear Chairman Van Orden, Ranking Member Levin, and Representative Nancy Mace,

On behalf of the Alston Wilkes Society, a statewide 61-year-old agency in South Carolina, I am submitting this statement for the record to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity's Legislative Hearing.

We have specifically provided grant and per diem services since 1996 in Columbia, SC and Greenville, SC. We currently serve a total of 55 GPD veterans. We have been extremely successful in serving our veterans.

The bipartisan work your committee did to increase the per diem rate during COVID was sincerely appreciated. Increasing the nightly rate from \$54.89 to \$164.67 gave us the opportunity to provide enhanced clinical services, additional sanitation, and security that was needed for our veterans. The recent decrease to \$64.52 has now negatively impacted our ability to serve our veterans.

As the daughter of a Citadel graduate who fought in World War II, and as the niece of a Star of the West recipient at the Citadel, I understand and highly value the sacrifices made by our veterans for our country.

I am respectfully asking your committee to support the proposed reimbursement in H.R. 491 to allow providers like us to restore the level of services needed for our veterans.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at 803-606-4943 should you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Anne Walker".

S. Anne Walker, M.Ed.
Certified Corrections Executive
President & CEO

SAW/lmb