



The Retired Enlisted Association

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CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

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The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bilirakis:

On behalf of the members of The Retired Enlisted Association, a Congressionally-chartered veterans' service organization and the largest association in the nation exclusively for enlisted personnel and veterans from all branches of the Armed Forces, I am writing in support of your legislation, H.R. 4830, the "Servicemembers Improved Transition through Reforms for Ensuring Progress Act" or the "SIT-REP Act." Your legislation would provide for the disapproval of any course of education for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs unless the educational institution providing the course permits individuals to attend or participate in courses pending payment by the Department.

Currently veterans are often penalized in ways that other students who are recipients of a federal educational financial assistance are not if the Department of Veterans Affairs payment is not provided when the institution requires.

Your legislation will remedy that situation and make sure that veterans are not unfairly penalized. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Respectfully,

Larry Madison
Legislative Director