November 3, 2026

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Chairman
Senate Armed Services Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Senate Armed Services Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member
House Armed Services Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

We are national nonprofit organizations who are committed to enhancing the quality of life of service members, veterans and their families. Sadly, food insecurity remains a pervasive problem among veterans and military families, jeopardizing the health and well-being of those who have volunteered to serve our country. That is unacceptable. For that reason, we support Senator Mark Warner and Senator Lisa Murkowski's bipartisan amendment to the Fiscal Year 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would establish an interagency working group to address food insecurity among veterans transitioning to civilian life. We urge you to include this important provision, which was in the Senate's Managers' Package (#6186), in the final version of the NDAA.

The transition from military to civilian life can come with many challenges for veterans and their families. Often, those challenges include financial instability, making it difficult for too many veteran families to put food on the table. Addressing this challenge will require a coordinated response across key federal government agencies. The interagency working group proposed by Senators Warner and Murkowski would bring together subject matter experts from the Departments of War, Veterans Affairs, and Agriculture along with outside stakeholders to improve coordination, identify barriers to collaboration, and compare best practices in preventing food insecurity. The provision would also strengthen education and outreach regarding available federal nutrition assistance programs, particularly for those at heightened risk of food insecurity. We appreciate that this important provision has the bipartisan support of the Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Agriculture committees.

Service members and their families accept tremendous sacrifice as part of their mission to protect our country. As a country, we owe it to them to do everything we can to ensure that they are successful in their transition to civilian life. Addressing and preventing food insecurity is an essential part of that effort. We thank Senators Warner and Murkowski for their leadership on this issue and ask that their amendment be included in the final version of the FY2027 NDAA. Our service members and their families deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

American Legion

Blue Star Families

Feeding America

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)

MAZON

Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN)

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

National Military Family Association (NMFA)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)