

June 19, 2019

The Honorable Donna Shalala United States House of Representatives 1320 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Shalala,

I write today on behalf of the Military Officers Association of America and our 350,000 members in support of the Defending All Veterans in Education (DAVIE) Act.

MOAA is charged by our members to defend their earned benefits. The GI Bill and other education benefits granted to servicemembers offers them the opportunity to advance both in their career within the uniformed services and in their post-transition lives. When unscrupulous institutions look to make a quick dollar off of servicemembers and other military-connected students, we must seek restoration for those students and we must ensure accountability to prevent others from being ensnared by false claims and predatory practices.

Closing the 90/10 loophole is one of our major legislative priorities for military-connected students to protect their benefits. When the rule was enacted, the exclusion of Department of Defense and Veterans Administration education benefits from the definition of federal funds created a financial loophole that predatory institutions use to take advantage of military connected students. This has gone on too long.

Congress must decide how to address the abuse of our nation's servicemembers, veterans, and their families. MOAA supports legislative efforts to close this loophole and to demand accountability from the educational institutions our nation's servicemembers, veterans, and their families attend. The DAVIE Act would close the loophole that threatens our servicemembers benefits, tighten the rule to an 80/20 split of federal and non-federal income, and require action against institutions in violation of the rule.

We are grateful for your leadership on behalf of military-connected students, and we offer our support for the DAVIE Act.

Sincerely,

Dana T. Cekins