



22 December 2018

The Honorable John Thune  
United States Senate  
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Thune:

On behalf of Sea Service Family Foundation, Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Association, Coast Guard Enlisted Association, Fleet Reserve Association and our more than 173,000 supporters and members, and the below signed associations, we urge you to reintroduce S. 545, the Pay Our Coast Guard Act. The act was introduced in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, in February of 2015. This legislation makes continuous appropriations for Coast Guard pay for a government shutdown. The impact the shutdown will have on Coasties is unnecessary and can cause a serious amount of stress during the holidays and afterwards.

In order to conduct operations as normal, the act provides for sums as necessary to provide pay and allowances to members of the Coast Guard, including reserve components who perform active service and inactive duty training. The act also calls for pay for civilian employees of the Coast Guard, and such sums as necessary to provide pay and allowances to contractors of the Coast Guard.

Their brothers and sisters in the Department of Defense are being paid, and so should they. Please consider the benefit this legislation would have on the Coasties and their families during the holiday season.

Furthermore, the impact this shutdown will have on the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance will make it difficult for them to continue supporting the men and women of the Coast Guard due to the majority of their funds coming from Direct Deposit.

Thank you for taking an active role in such an important issue to the Military community by working to improve the lives and careers of those who serve our great nation.

*Very Respectfully,*

*Sea Service Family, Foundation  
Coast Guard Enlisted Association  
National Military Family Association  
Fleet Reserve Association*

*Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association  
Non-Commissioned Officers Association  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association  
Military Officers Association of America*