

April 24, 2020

The Honorable Jerry Moran, Chairman  
Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jon Tester, Ranking Member  
Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Takano, Chairman  
House Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Phil Roe, Ranking Member  
House Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Moran, Ranking Member Tester, Chairman Takano, and Ranking Member Roe:

We, the undersigned veteran and military service organizations representing a collective membership of millions, express our gratitude for all the work you and your colleagues have done to respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Your diligence has made a difference by protecting those working on the front lines, ensuring needed healthcare is still obtainable, and sustaining millions of Americans whose lives have been seriously disrupted.

We know there is still more work to be done and stand ready to advise and support your efforts. We ask now that you help cover a small but deserving cohort, the children of veterans who are disabled or who died from a service-connected disability. This population does not have the healthcare coverage afforded to most Americans through private or federal healthcare policies. Dependents and survivors of veterans on the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) should not be left out due to disparate treatment.

Many of these children risk losing their healthcare through no fault of their own, as they may be unable to enroll or continue their college program resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak. Many others are among the 6.6 million who have lost their jobs or are unable to secure employment. Given the extreme magnitude of the crisis, we urgently request your support in passing the CHAMPVA Children's Care Protection Act. Please ensure this bill gets through committees and into the next national relief and recovery supplemental appropriations package in order to secure their health care and protect their well-being.

Given the immensity and unprecedented nature of the crisis, we thank you for your immediate attention to this pressing issue. We look forward to supporting you as you work to get the CHAMPVA Children's Care Protection Act included in the supplemental appropriations package so we can protect this vulnerable population.

Respectfully,  
[The Undersigned Organizations]

Cc: Senator Sherrod Brown, Representative Julia Brownley

Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA)  
Air Force Association (AFA)  
Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA)  
American Military Society  
Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS)  
American Veterans (AMVETS)  
Association of the United States Navy (AUSN)  
Blue Star Families  
Blinded Veterans Association (BVA)  
Commissioned Officers Association of the Public Health Service, Inc. (COAPHS)  
Coast Guard Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association (CWOAUSCG)  
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS)  
Fleet Reserve Association (FRA)  
Gold Star Wives of America (GSW)  
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans Association (IAVA)  
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV)  
Marine Corps Reserve Association (MCRA)  
Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America (MCA)  
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)  
Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)  
National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)  
National Military Family Association (NMFA)  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA)  
Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA)  
Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)  
Service Women's Action Network (SWAN)  
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)  
The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)  
United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA)  
USCG Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA)  
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)  
VetsFirst, United Spinal Association  
Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)