

3/6/2017

The Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney  
1027 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Maloney:

On behalf of the National Military and Veterans Alliance (NMVA), a nonpartisan policy and advocacy organization composed of military and veteran service organizations, we write to express our support for the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act. If enacted, this legislation would authorize the minting of a commemorative coin, the proceeds of which would provide funding to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, New York.

The minting of commemorative coins to honor noteworthy American people, places and events has a long history, with Congress authorizing the first commemorative coin in 1892 in recognition of the Columbian Exposition. Since the modern commemorative coin program began in 1982, over \$418 million has been raised from surcharges on the sale of the coins to fund various projects and sites of public benefit. However, no commemorative coin has ever been issued recognizing our national symbol of military sacrifice, the Purple Heart.

Originally known as the Badge of Military Merit, first awarded by General George Washington in 1782, the Purple Heart is our nation's oldest military decoration. Today, it is given exclusively to service members who are killed or wounded in combat against the enemy. The mission of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is "the collection and preservation of the records of Purple Heart recipients in all branches of service and across all generations." This not only honors the service of Purple Heart recipients, but also serves as a reminder to the general public of the human cost of freedom. Accordingly, NMVA believes that the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and its important mission is a most worthy cause, fully deserving of a commemorative coin.

On behalf of the undersigned and those Alliance members listed below, we thank you for introducing this important legislation and look forward to working with you to ensure its passage.

Sincerely,



Ted S. Painter  
Co-Director  
National Military & Veterans Alliance  
National Legislative Director  
American Military Retirees Association  
508-335-3616  
tedscottpainter@gmail.com



Aleks Morosky  
Co-Director  
National Military & Veterans Alliance  
National Legislative Director  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
703-642-5360 Ext: 117  
aleksmorosky@purpleheart.org

**National Military and Veterans Alliance Member Organizations Supporting the  
National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act**

Armed Forces Marketing Council  
American Military Retirees Association  
American Military Society  
American Retirees Association  
AMVETS  
Army Navy Union  
Association of the United States Navy  
Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.  
Korean War Veterans Foundation  
Military Order of Foreign Wars  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
National Defense Committee  
National Enlisted Reserve Association  
Reserve Officers Association  
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors  
The Flag and General Officers Network  
The Retired Enlisted Association  
Vietnam Veterans of America