

October 31st, 2019

The Honorable Sanford Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
2407 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Removal of the concurrent receipt offset for certain Chapter 61 retirees

Dear Congressman Bishop,

The National Military and Veterans Alliance, a nonpartisan advocacy group comprised of the undersigned military and veteran service organizations, writes to thank you for your leadership in addressing the issue of concurrent receipt for our disabled military retirees. By introducing new legislation that focuses on retirees who have been medically retired with less than twenty years of service, you are dealing with a familiar issue in a bold and new way.

NMVA agrees that your legislation eliminating the concurrent receipt offset for Chapter 61 retirees who can be up to 100% disabled and who are not eligible for combat related special compensation (CRSC) is the best way to approach the issue of concurrent receipt.

These retirees are often unable to work and, because they were unable to serve for twenty years, their retirement pay is often greatly reduced. Allowing them to retain this money and receive their earned VA disability pay will alleviate the great financial burdens often carried by these retirees.

We are particularly pleased that your legislation will allow these retirees to continue to choose to have their retirement calculated based on time in service or percentage of disability without being subjected to the current offset.

We all would prefer to see the current offset removed for all retirees still impacted by it and we appreciate your past attempts to convince your colleagues in the House to support efforts to pass your more comprehensive bill, H.R. 333. We share your optimism that, by targeting a smaller group of retirees, support for this new legislation will grow. We stand ready to support new or continued efforts to eliminate the concurrent receipt offset for any and all affected by it in the future.

The undersigned member organizations of the NMVA pledge our full support and assistance on behalf of this legislation and we salute your efforts and leadership in addressing this important issue. You have our continued thanks for your efforts on behalf of America's veterans and their families.

Sincerely,



Ted Painter
Co-Director
National Military and Veterans Alliance
Executive Director
Armed Forces Retirees Association
508-335-3616
painter@armedforcesretirees.org

National Military and Veterans Alliance Member Organizations Supporting Your Legislation

American Military Society
Army and Navy Union of the USA
American Retiree Association
AMVETS
Armed Forces Retirees Association
Association of the United States Navy
Japanese American Veterans Association
Military Order of Foreign Wars
Military Order of World Wars
Reserve Officers Association
Sea Service Family Foundation
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
The Retired Enlisted Association
Vets1st