

Wives of America; Korean War Veterans Association; Military Order of the Purple Heart; Legion of Valor; National Assn. for Uniformed Services; Naval Enlisted Reserve Association; Naval Reserve Association; Non Commissioned Officers Assn; Society of Medical Consultants; The Retired Enlisted Association; TREA Senior Citizen League; Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors; Veterans of Foreign Wars; Women in Search of Equity.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION,

Arlington, Virginia, January 25, 2000.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,

Senate Russell Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN:

On behalf of the 150,000 members of the Air Force Association, I want to thank you for taking the lead in the Senate to enact legislation to restore affordable, portable and accessible health care for our nation's military members, their families and our retirees. I am confident your legislative actions on this bill will have a long-term, positive affect on the morale, welfare and retention of those who now serve on active duty and will keep faith with those now retired.

While I know other Members of the Senate are planning to introduce similar legislation, your very comprehensive bill has set a high standard for others to follow. I also am pleased to see that the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) will make military health care reform their number one personnel-related issue this year. The majority of the concerns raised by the JCS are pointedly addressed in your legislation.

We want to work with you to get this bill enacted into law. Please let us know how we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. MCKEE.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR  
UNIFORMED SERVICES,

Springfield, VA, January 25, 2000.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: The National Association for Uniformed Services and The Society of Military Widows with membership encompassing all grades, ranks, family members and survivors of all seven uniformed services strongly support your legislation, "Honoring Health Care Commitments to Service Members Past and Present Act of 2000."

We applaud your leadership in introducing this most comprehensive legislation which will improve access to health care for every category of military member, active duty, retired, family member and survivor.

This bill will repair the broken health care promise to the nation's warriors and will reassure those considering a military career that the nation will honor its promises made to those who have served to keep our country free. This legislation includes Medicare eligible retirees who desperately need medical care and are the only Federal employees who lose their DoD sponsored health care at age 65. The options offered are critical to military beneficiaries and include priority access to military treatment facilities and TRICARE Senior Prime networks, expansion of the Base Realignment and Closure pharmacy benefit, allows enrollment in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program and establishes an accrual account for military health care as is done for other Federal retirees.

Each option in this legislation is essential. Beneficiaries need the maximum number of

choices to meet the varying needs of active duty, retirees, their families and survivors whatever their location or medical condition.

This bill reflects your longstanding commitment to a strong national defense and the men and women who make that defense possible. It also will meet a major obligation of the Government and we thank you for introducing it.

Sincerely,

RICHARD D. MURRAY,  
Major General, USAF (Ret),  
President, NAUS and Administrator, SMW.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2000.

CHRIS PAUL,

c/o JOHN S. MCCAIN III.

I am delighted that Senator John McCain has signed on to H.R. 2966. This is a giant step toward repairing the breach of contract by this Administration.

Furthermore, the McCain bill goes further to improve the health care delivery system for active duty servicemembers and their families and also repairs the "broken promise" for military retirees and their families.

COL. GEORGE "BUD" DAY,  
Attorney for WWII-Korean Vets.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 74

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 74, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 92

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 92, a bill to provide for biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

S. 242

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 242, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require the labeling of imported meat and meat food products.

S. 820

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 820, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent motor fuel excise taxes on railroads and inland waterway transportation which remain in the general fund of the Treasury.

S. 851

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 851, a bill to allow Federal employees to take advantage of the transportation fringe benefit provisions of the Internal Revenue Code that are available to private sector employees.

S. 1055

At the request of Mr. INOUE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.

1055, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate the day before Thanksgiving as "National Day of Reconciliation."

S. 1708

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1708, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require plans which adopt amendments that significantly reduce future benefit accruals to provide participants with adequate notice of the changes made by such amendments.

S. 1999

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1999, a bill for the relief of Elian Gonzalez-Brottons.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2003, a bill to restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO  
HOUSES—ADDRESS BY THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-160)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will proceed to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by the President of the United States.

Thereupon, the Senate, preceded by the Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Loretta Symms, the Secretary of the Senate, Gary Sisco, and the Vice President of the United States, ALBERT GORE, Jr., proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by the President of the United States, William J. Clinton.

(The address delivered by the President of the United States to the joint session of the two Houses of Congress appears in the proceedings of the House of Representatives in today's RECORD).

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,  
JANUARY 31, 2000

At the conclusion of the joint session of the two Houses, and in accordance with the order previously entered, at 10:50 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Monday, January 31, 2000, at 12 noon.

NOMINATION

Executive nomination received by the Senate January 27, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NANCY KILLEFER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS. (NEW POSITION)