



12 January 2016

The Honorable Sam Johnson
House of Representatives
2304 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

The below associations support the bill you are sponsoring, titled the Servicemember Retirement Improvement Act: This bill would give Reserve Component servicemembers the opportunity to fully participate in the military 401K part of the new blended retirement without compromising both their civilian and military retirement plans.

When not in military service many individuals are working in civilian jobs that have 401k retirement programs. Because of contribution limits set by the IRS, not all Guard and Reserve members would be able to fully participate in the new blended retirement without reducing their civilian employment retirement options. Additionally, they could miss out on the opportunity to qualify for government matching contributions

It is important to remember the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, which proposed a blended retirement entitlement, did not intend for Guard and Reserve members to lose benefits. We believe the bill will encourage Guard, and Reserve members to contribute to their military 401K plan and prevent a negative impact to recruiting and retention.

Our associations have a membership which represents all the uniformed services of the United States who would be favorably affected by your bill. Thank you for your efforts on this issue, and past support to the military.

Supported by:

Association of the United States Army
Association of the United States Navy
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States
National Association for Uniformed Services
National Guard Association of the United States
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association
Reserve Officers Association
The Retired Enlisted Association