



March 22, 2017

The Honorable Lee Zeldin  
United States House of Representatives  
1517 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

On behalf of the Association of the United States Navy, we would like to pledge our support for H.R. 814, the Veterans Estate Transfer to Survivors Act, or VETS Act.

This bill would require the VA to pay certain benefits that were earned by a veteran to the veteran's estate. Under current law, if a veteran passes away while the VA is still reviewing a claim, the VA no longer has to award the earned benefits. Currently, only a veteran's spouse, minor child, or dependent parents are eligible to collect the accrued benefits. By adding the estate to the current list of beneficiaries, adult children could now also receive the benefits earned, should there be no other qualifying family members.

Thank you for taking an active role in such an important issue to the Military and Veteran community by working to improve the lives and careers of those who served our great nation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 703-548-5800 or at [michael.little@ausn.org](mailto:michael.little@ausn.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Joseph Little". To the right of the signature, there is a handwritten note in blue ink that says "ABH<sup>2</sup> (AW/Sea) USNR".

Michael J. Little  
Director of Legislative Affairs