



March 21, 2017

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

On behalf of the Association of the United States Navy, we would like to pledge our support for S. 591, the Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Improvement Act of 2017. This bill expands eligibility for the family caregiver program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include members of the Armed Forces or veterans who are seriously injured or who become ill on active duty prior to September 11, 2001, which is currently limited to service after 9/11. Services to caregivers of veterans under such a program are expanded to include childcare services, financial planning services, and legal services.

This bill authorizes the transfer of entitlement to post 9/11 education assistance to family members by veterans who are retired for a physical disability or who are seriously injured veterans in need of family caregiver services, without regard to length of service requirements. The VA is authorized to pay monthly special compensation to seriously injured or ill veterans in need of personal care services and to their caregivers.

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 typed name "Michael J. Little" and the acronym "USNR" below it.

Michael J. Little  
Director of Legislative Affairs