



March 23, 2017

The Honorable Michael Conaway
United States House of Representatives
2430 Rayburn 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. 629, the Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act. This bill prohibits, in any case arising out of the administration of laws and benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, any person who is mentally incapacitated, deemed mentally incompetent, or experiencing an extended loss of consciousness from being considered adjudicated as a mental defective for purposes of the right to receive or transport firearms without the order or finding of a judicial authority of competent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself or herself or others.

Under current law, veterans who receive help navigating their benefits from a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) fiduciary are automatically labeled as “mentally defective” in the VA system. This incorrect label wrongly places them in the FBI’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), denying veterans their Second Amendment rights.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Joseph Little". To the right of the signature, there is a handwritten note: "ABH² (Adm/Sec) USNR".

Michael J. Little
Director of Legislative Affairs