

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

US Representative Mark Takano, Chair House Committee on Veterans' Affairs 364 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

U.S. Senator Jon Tester, Chair Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs 412 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 US Representative Mike Bost Ranking Member House Committee on Veterans' Affairs 364 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, Ranking Member Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs 412 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Re: Impact of 85/15 Rule Interpretation on VA Education Beneficiaries

Dear Chair Takano, Ranking Member Bost, Chair Tester, and Ranking Member Moran,

The National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators (NAVPA) and the organizations listed below, thanks you for taking time to listen and respond to the many concerns from colleges and universities nationwide regarding the recent interpretation of the 85/15 Rule. NAVPA's membership alone consists of over 400 Institutions of Higher Learning and represents more than 530,000 student veterans across the nation.

The number of higher education institutions that have expended numerous measures and manhours in response to the recent modification of the 85/15 Rule from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has NAVPA deeply concerned regarding the outcome of these changes and the negative impact on affected GI Bill® students who are unable to enroll in their program of study at their selected institution and use their educational benefit. NAVPA members and other organizations are reporting several programs being suspended by the VA with no student veterans enrolled in any of these programs. Our members have shared a number of suspended programs are STEM or first responder. Considering the pandemic, our country cannot afford to limit these types of programs to our student veterans.

NAVPA and the organizations below fully support both S.4458 and H.R.8198 legislation to address the 85-15 disparity created by the VA and we ask for your continued support to pass this vital legislation to help our nation's heroes.

Thank you.

Dr. Jan Del Signore President, NAVPA

On behalf of:

National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators (NAVPA)

The Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials (AVECO)

The California State University

Career Education Colleges and Universities (CECU)

Council of Colleges and Military Educators (CCME)

Florida Advisory Council on Military Education (FL-ACME)

Florida Association of Veterans Education Specialists (FAVES)

North Carolina Association of Coordinators of Veterans' Affairs (NCACVA)

Oregon Association of Veteran School Certifying Officials (OrAVSCO)

Texas Association of Collegiate Veteran Program Officials (TACVPO)

SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society

The State University of New York

Upper Midwest Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (UMACRAO)

Virginia Association of School Certifying Officials (VASCO)

Wisconsin Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (WACRAO)