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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

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July 10, 2012

The Honorable Dean Heller  
United States Senate  
361 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

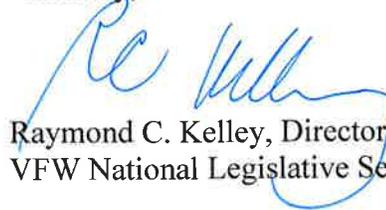
On behalf of the 2 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and our Auxiliaries, I am pleased to endorse S. 3308, the Women's Homeless Veterans Protection Act.

The Grant and Per Diem Program and the Special Needs Grants Program established by Congress has helped many Veterans who have fallen on tough economic times through no fault of their own. However, as the demographics of the military have changed, the amount directed to women homeless veterans has not risen in proportion to the need of these Veterans. Furthermore, the Grant and Per Diem Program is unable to compensate shelters for the cost of care for a Veterans' dependent.

S. 3308 addresses these deficiencies by increasing the authorization level of funding for homeless female veterans while also providing for children of veterans. It increases the Special Needs Grant Program's authorization to at least 15 percent of the total authorization for the Grant and Per Diem Program. This would help ensure that funding is available to provide safe, private and secure facilities for homeless women veterans and single homeless veterans with dependent children.

Thank you for continuing to take the lead on this initiative, and for your continued support of our armed forces and veterans. We look forward to working with you to advance this critical initiative.

Sincerely,



Raymond C. Kelley, Director  
VFW National Legislative Service