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May 5, 2015

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2805

The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senate
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Heller and Casey:

I am writing on behalf of DAV, a congressionally chartered national veterans' service organization with 1.2 million members, all of whom were wounded or injured as a result of wartime active duty in the United States armed forces. DAV is dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

We have reviewed the draft bill, the 21st Century Veterans Benefits Delivery Act. The delegates to our most recent National Convention passed DAV Resolution No. 192, which calls for reforms in the Veterans Benefits Administration's disability claims process. Some provisions in your draft bill parallel our resolution. Other provisions are consistent with our legislative agenda.

We recognize that a similar bill was introduced in the 113th Congress. DAV greatly appreciates your continued bipartisan efforts to support meaningful reforms to the programs and benefits provided to active duty service members and veterans. DAV looks forward to working with you and your staff to improve this draft bill.

Thank you for your support of America's wounded, ill and injured veterans and their families.

Sincerely,


GARRY J. AUGUSTINE
Executive Director
Washington Headquarters



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