

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 50 Temple Hills, Maryland 20757-0050 Phone: 301-899-3500 E-Mail: staff@hqafsa.org



January 20, 2014

The Honorable Bernie Sanders Chairman, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs 412 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Sanders:

On behalf of the 110,000 members of the Air Force Sergeants Association, I offer our full support of your bill, S.1950, the "Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014." This comprehensive package of military and Veterans legislation addresses many key AFSA goals by:

- Providing advance appropriations for all VA accounts
- Requiring In-state tuition rates at public colleges for students using Post 9/11 education benefits
- Extending Veterans status to all Guard and Reserve members
- Allowing widows who remarry after age 55 to retain their full Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC); and
- Most important, repealing the unfair 1% reduction in annual cost-of-living adjustments for younger military retirees

Millions of Veterans, their families and survivors would benefit from the passage of this legislation and we urge Members of Congress to adopt it in a bipartisan way as quickly as possible.

We cannot thank you enough for your superior effort to take care of America's Veterans and their families AFSA stands ready to render whatever support we can to advance this important legislation.

Respectfully,

JOHN/R. "DOC" McCAUSLIN, CMSgt, USAF, Retired

Chief Executive Officer

Serving the *Total Air Force* Enlisted Corps And Their Families since 1961