



*United States Army*  
**Warrant Officers Association**

*The Quiet Professionals®*

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January 17, 2014

The Honorable Bernard Sanders  
Chairman, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee  
United States Senate  
332 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4503

Dear Senator Sanders:

The United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA), is the only military service organization thoroughly devoted to the welfare of Army Warrant Officers – serving, former and retired – and their families. The USAWOA thanks you for introducing S.1950, the Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014. This broad piece of legislation contains many important provisions strongly supported by our Members.

Specifically, we strongly support the provisions in section 801 that would fully restore cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for **all** Military Retirees, which were cut by the recently passed Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013. The USAWOA believes these cuts constituted an egregious breach of the longstanding moral contract between this great nation and the brave men and women willing to die for her. Further, we strongly believe the message it sends to future potential recruits threatens the very foundation of the highly successful all-volunteer force. Section 801 of S. 1950 fixes this.

The USAWOA also strongly supports other important provisions in this legislation, such as recognition of retired members of the military reserve components as veterans, found in section 808. Additionally, the bill provides for multiple important provisions impacting Veterans in the following areas: survivor benefits, VA healthcare (including dental care), care for victims of sexual trauma, and employment-assistance.

On behalf of our membership, I want to sincerely thank you again for S. 1950 and urge that it be adopted on a broad bi-partisan basis, as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Jack Du Teil  
Executive Director