



**United States Coast Guard
CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

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January 22, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

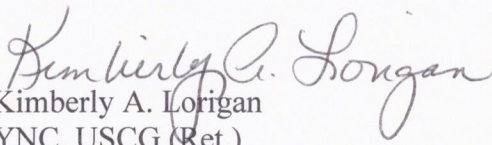
On behalf of the 10,000 members of the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA) and the U.S. Coast Guard Enlisted Association (CGEA), please accept my heartfelt thanks for your leadership in crafting and introducing S.1950, the Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014. Your bill, if enacted, will have a significant positive impact on all Veterans, and accomplish many of The Military Coalition's most important priorities and legislative goals for 2014.

This unprecedented omnibus bill would create, expand and extend a number of VA benefits, services and programs that are vitally important to our members. We are especially appreciative of the provision that repeals the unfair 1% COLA cut that was recently enacted.

The men and women of the CPOA and CGEA pledge our support of S.1950, and will work with you and other Senators to ensure it is enacted into law.

Again, thank you for your leadership in protecting and advancing the interests of the Veterans of this great country.

Sincerely,


Kimberly A. Lorigan
YNC, USCG (Ret.)
CPOA National President

IN RESPECT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US, AND AS A GUIDE FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOW