

The Honorable John Tester
United States Senate
Committee on Veterans Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
Committee on Veterans Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

June 6, 2022

Dear Chairman Tester and Ranking Member Moran,

On behalf of the undersigned, which represents the interests and concerns of well over one million members of the Uniformed Services, veterans, their family members, retirees and survivors, we are pleased to offer our support for the *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022*.

Toxic Exposure in the military is one of the most important—and devastating—issues for veterans and their families today. Whether exposed to burn pits in Iraq or Afghanistan; Agent Orange during the Vietnam War; or toxic water right here on American soil at Camp Lejeune, which affected not just servicemembers but their families, this bill will improve the health care, benefits and quality of life for those who have suffered due to toxic exposure. We commend you for your efforts which resulted in this groundbreaking, comprehensive legislation which will take care of generations of veterans and their families who were exposed to dangerous toxins.

Toxic exposure has been a long-time problem in the military that was left unaddressed for decades. We commend you for working together to craft a bipartisan compromise that expands eligibility for health care; creates a framework for establishing presumptive service connection; increases resources for those exposed to toxins; addresses an anomaly in North Carolina law that is preventing Camp Lejeune victims from seeking justice; and expands research on toxic exposures. Importantly, the bill also gives the Department of Veterans Affairs the resources necessary to process additional claims, improve the VA workforce and increase the number of VA facilities.

It is with great pleasure, therefore, for us to support the *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022*, which will bring relief and justice to the veterans and their families who have suffered from toxic exposure.

In light of Memorial Day, the health, well-being and futures of our veterans and their families are in the hands of the U.S. Senate. I hope your colleagues will follow your lead and the Senate will expeditiously pass the *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022*.

On behalf of our membership, we thank you for your service and advocacy for our nation's servicemembers and veterans. We look forward to working with you to pass the PACT Act and provide servicemembers, veterans and their families the long overdue health care, benefits and justice they deserve.

Sincerely,

Aces and Eights
Dixon Center for Military and Veterans Services
Flanders Fields
G02 Foundation for Lung Cancer
The Independence Fund
The Lifeline Foundation
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Military Veterans Advocacy
National Association of County Veterans Service Officers
Operation Freedom Birds
Operation Pineapple
Operation Sacred Promise
Operation Recovery
Operation 620
Red River Valley Association
Reserve Organization of America
Save Our Allies
Special Operations Association of America
Task Force Argo
Task Force Diablo
Task Force Hawk
Task Force North Star
Veteran Warriors