



**National Military and Veterans Alliance**  
5535 Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151  
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December 4, 2009

The Honorable Susan Davis  
Chairwoman, House Military Personnel Subcommittee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Davis:

In May, the NMVA requested your subcommittee convene a hearing to examine the numerous problematic issues surrounding the Uniformed Services Formers Spouse Protection Act (USFSPA). As of this date, we have not received a response to our request.

We firmly believe the current USFSPA has a very detrimental impact on those who are currently serving and have served their country. Since its passage in 1982, the implementation of USFSPA law has increasingly eroding the morale of our men and women in uniform, because the various States have not applied the USFSPA as intended by the 97th Congress.

As mentioned in our previous letter, the USFSPA was passed by Congress in direct response to the Supreme Court decision of *McCarty v. McCarty*, 453 U.S. 210 (1981), which held that military retirement pay (MRP) is the sole property of the service member. Passage of USFSPA law allowed States to treat MRP to be divisible marital entitlement in a divorce.

Under State interpretation, serious and substantial problems have arisen in the implementation of USFSPA provisions. In addition, repeated military deployments have greatly aggravated the numbers of military members who are divorcing on active duty or shortly after retirement. Given this environment, we respectfully request your subcommittee review the inequities and unintended consequences of the USFSPA at the earliest possible date.

Again, the NMVA looks forward to working constructively with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deirdre Parke Holloman".

Deirdre M. Parke-Holloman  
Co-Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Jones".

Richard A. Jones  
Co-Director



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- American Logistics Association
- American Military Retirees Association
- American Military Society
- American Retirees Association
- American WWII Orphans Network
- AMVETS (American Veterans)
- Armed Forces Marketing Council
- Army Navy Union
- Association of the United States Navy
- Catholic War Veterans
- Gold Star Wives of America
- Japanese American Veterans Association
- Korean War Veterans Foundation
- Legion of Valor
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Military Order of Foreign Wars
- Military Order of the World Wars
- National Association for Uniformed Services
- National Gulf War Resource Center
- Naval Enlisted Reserve Association
- Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Reserve Enlisted Association
- Reserve Officers Association
- Society of Military Widows
- The Retired Enlisted Association
- TREA Senior Citizen League
- Tragedy Assistant Program for Survivors
- Uniformed Services Disabled Retirees
- Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- Women in Search of Equity