



National Association for Uniformed Services®

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The Servicemember's Voice in Government

Established in 1968



****NEWS RELEASE****

NAUS Speaks Out in Support of Wounded Warriors Suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Springfield, Virginia (4/23/09) – Rick Jones, Legislative Director of the National Association for Uniformed Services® (NAUS), joined Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC) and Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) at a news conference on Capitol Hill supporting the PTSD/TBI Guaranteed Review for Heroes Act (H.R. 1701), introduced by Rep. Jones and Rep. Gene Taylor (D-MS) in March.

The bill aims to address problems that arise when servicemembers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) are not properly treated and subsequently self-medicate or experience changes in behavior that lead to serious legal issues and the threat of separation from their service without benefits or treatment. The bill would mandate a physical examination board for servicemembers diagnosed with PTSD or TBI, and establish a special review board for servicemembers affected by PTSD or TBI who were discharged under less than honorable conditions without due consideration of their diagnosis.

Rick Jones said, “NAUS is concerned about instances of military members struggling with traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder receiving a punitive discharge stemming from military court martial action. One would like to believe these cases are fully investigated, but without an independent review there is no way of knowing.”

NAUS supports this measure and encourages its passage.

NAUS is a nonprofit, non-partisan association dedicated to protecting the interests of - and benefits earned by - members of the uniformed services for themselves, their families and survivors. NAUS provides administrative support to the Society of Military Widows. For more information please contact Steve Hein, Director of Marketing, at 703-750-1342, x1009, or at shein@naus.org, or visit the Association's web site at www.naus.org.

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