



Lt Gen Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret)
President and CEO

March 14, 2017

The Honorable David Roe
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Roe,

As the fourth largest Veterans Service Organization, I write to express our support for your efforts to improve accountability across the Department of Veterans Affairs by introducing the VA Accountability First Act of 2017.

MOAA believes strongly that our nations' veterans deserve the highest quality care and best possible benefits in exchange for their selfless service. Too often, this goal has been compromised by a small number of VA employees who undermine the outstanding work done by a vast majority of the remaining VA employees. This bill provides for the removal, demotion or suspension of employees based on poor performance or misconduct, as well as several other important provisions like whistleblower protections. These are the types of tools that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has stated he needs to take quick action in removing these bad actors and improving the overall organization – and we agree.

MOAA looks forward to working with you and your staff on these important issues now and in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana T. Atkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".