July 7, 2017

Jared Lyon, President & CEO Student Veterans of America 1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Lyon:

In the military, "got your six" means "I've got your back." As a coalition, Got Your 6 works to integrate that commitment of support into popular culture, engage veterans and civilians together to foster understanding and empower veterans to lead in their communities. Got Your 6 knows that one of the greatest empowerment tools available to veterans and their families is the GI Bill and we appreciate your leadership on strengthening it and protecting it for future generations.

We wanted to voice our support for your recent work with the GI Bill modernization, also referred to as the *Forever GI Bill*. This proposal seeks to fix many of the current issues within the Post-9/11 GI Bill, some of which have impacted veterans and families for close to a decade, while also guaranteeing all student veterans have access to the benefits they earned.

We believe that all veterans have earned educational assistance through their cost of service, yet now, too many are being left behind. The Forever GI Bill alleviates these problems through many measures, including addressing issues for National Guard and Reserve Members, Purple Heart recipients, survivors and families of the fallen, and students who experienced sudden school closures including those at Corinthian Colleges and ITT Technical Institutes.

Also, the removal of the 15-year time limit on usage of the benefit will make this truly a lifetime benefit. In addition to these critical components, the proposal would achieve a long list of urgent changes, including but not limited to: extension of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Education (VACOE), extension of the VA Work-Study Program, additional funds for the Veterans Success on Campus (VSOC) program, much-needed funding for State Approving Agencies, and resources for the Veterans Benefits Administration IT needs.

This is a package that we can stand firmly behind, and will look forward to fighting for it until Congress sends it to the President's desk for his signature. These issues are absolutely urgent and we will continue to work closely with you to ensure that our veterans and their families rally across this country for these improvements.

We greatly appreciate the work of your organization and applaud the leadership your team has taken to address these issues. Please feel free to contact Lauren Augustine our Director of Government Relations directly if you should have any additional questions on this matter by email at laugustine@gotyour6.org.

Sincerely,

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William J. Rausch Executive Director Got Your 6