



VADM Norbert R. Ryan, Jr. USN (Ret)

July 14, 2011

The Honorable Jeff Miller  
Chairman, Committee on Veterans Affairs  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

On behalf of the 370,000 members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), I am writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 2433, *The Veterans Opportunity to Work Act*.

H.R. 2433 would re-open Vietnam Era GI Bill educational benefits to certain veterans who have been chronically unemployed, mandate attendance in the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), require the Defense and Departments of Labor to track outcome measures for TAP participants, re-authorize a pilot program to link military acquired skills to civilian jobs through licensing and certification, and for other purposes.

MOAA recommends including a provision in the bill to require outreach by the VA to unemployed veterans who may be eligible for the GI Bill benefits authorized in Title I of the legislation. We would also recommend adoption of Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VRE) program adjustments and other employment-related features in the *Hiring Heroes Act of 2011*, H.R. 1941.

MOAA pledges its full support for early enactment of H.R. 1941 and respectfully requests including this letter in the record of any hearing to consider or mark-up this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norbert Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style.