

May 9, 2012

Honorable Elijah E. Cummings U.S. House of Representatives 2235 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cummings:

On behalf of Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), a Congressionally Chartered veterans' service organization that represents veterans with spinal cord injuries and diseases, I am writing to express our support for your legislation that would make needed reform in the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA).

SCRA provides certain protection for servicemembers against sale, foreclosure, and seizure of property when those servicemembers are unable to meet the financial obligation on real or personal property. To expand this protection offered under SCRA the House recently passed H.R. 1263. This legislation would offer the same protection to the spouse of a servicemember who died while in the military and whose death is service connected. This protection offered in H.R. 1263 is of significant importance to protect the home of the deceased servicemember where the spouse and children may reside.

Your proposed legislation will expand the protection of SCRA to include servicemembers who are seriously injured while serving in the military. Their homes should also have the same protection from foreclosure. It will extend the period of protection from mortgage foreclosure to 12 months after the veteran leaves the service. It also requires lending institutions to establish a toll free phone number for the service member to discuss their lending program.

Your proposed legislation is a strong example of the concern you have displayed for veterans and those serving in the military. We look forward to working with you on this legislation, or other legislation that benefits our servicemembers and our veterans.

Sincerely,

Carl Blake

National Legislative Director Paralyzed Veterans of America

Carl Blake