



June 10, 2014

The Honorable Andy Barr  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Barr:

The National Military Family Association has long been an advocate for improving the quality of life of our service members and military families who have sacrificed greatly in support of our Nation. We are concerned about troubling trends in both reported and unreported incidences of military sexual trauma (MST.) One of our Association priorities is to support survivors and their families in handling the aftermath of sexual assault. For this reason, we thank you for introducing the Military Sexual Assault Victims Empowerment Act (Military SAVE Act) that will allow an MST survivor to choose health care providers outside of the military and VA health care systems for treatment of MST-related injuries and conditions.

The National Military Family Association appreciates and supports this important legislation. Sharing information about a sexual assault is emotionally painful. It is important that MST survivors feel comfortable with their health care providers. The Military SAVE Act empowers survivors to select the health care they feel will best help them recover, even if that care is outside of the military and VA health care systems. We thank you for your efforts to put military sexual assault survivors in control of their care.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Karen Ruedisueli, Government Relations Deputy Director at 703.931.6632 or [KRuedisueli@militaryfamily.org](mailto:KRuedisueli@militaryfamily.org).

The National Military Family Association is the only national organization whose sole focus is the military family and whose goal is to influence the development and implementation of policies that will improve the lives of the families of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For 45 years, its staff and volunteers, comprised mostly of military family members, have built a reputation for being the leading experts on military family issues.

Sincerely,

Mary T. Scott  
Chairman, Board of Governors