



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

March 28, 2005

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Markey:

I am writing on behalf of the 370,000 members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) to thank you for your leadership in sponsoring H.R. 771 in the 109th Congress that would allow a member of the uniformed services who is wounded or otherwise injured while serving in a combat zone to continue to be paid applicable pays and allowances while the member recovers from combat-incurred wounds or injuries.

We support your view that our brave men and women in our Armed Services are heroes and they deserve our full support, particularly at one of the most difficult times in our country's history. If members are eligible for imminent danger pay and related compensation for incurring the risk of being assigned in a combat zone, they certainly should remain eligible for them while they recover from wounds they actually had to suffer. Failure to do so is a gross inequity that only adds to stresses and financial hardships for servicemembers and their families.

MOAA members applaud your efforts to ensure fairer treatment for our nation's warriors and we look forward to working closely with you in seeking maximum cosponsorship for and timely enactment of this legislation in the 109th Congress.

Sincerely, *with all the heart*
Norbert Ryan

*Thank you for your
leadership!*