



Commemorating 40 Years  
Of Disability Advocacy  
1973-2013

February 4, 2013

The Honorable Mike Michaud  
Ranking Member  
House Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Michaud:

On behalf of the Veterans and Military Families Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), we commend you for introducing the CHAMPVA Children's Protection Act, HR 288, which would allow children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program to continue to receive coverage to age 26. As you are aware, CCD is a coalition of more than 100 national disability rights, advocacy, consumer and provider organizations advocating for issues of importance to the nation's 54 million people with disabilities; and the task force is concerned with matters affecting veterans with disabilities and military family members with disabilities.

CHAMPVA is a vitally important health care program that provides necessary health care services and supplies to spouses and children of veterans who are disabled or who died from a service-connected disability. Unfortunately, when the Affordable Care Act (ACA) passed, children of these veterans were left out of the provisions allowing dependents to stay on their parents' insurance until age 26. Two years ago, Congress addressed a similar omission affecting dependents within the military health program TRICARE. Dependents and survivors of veterans on CHAMPVA should not be left out for disparate treatment.

Thank you for your efforts to correct this oversight. We look forward to working with you to ensure passage of HR 288 as early in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress as possible.

Sincerely,  
ACCSES  
American Association on Health and  
Disability  
American Counseling Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Speech-Language-Hearing  
Association  
American Therapeutic Recreation  
Association  
Brain Injury Association  
Community Access National Network  
Disability Rights, Education and Defense  
Fund

Easter Seals  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Mental Health America  
National Association of State Head Injury  
Administrators  
National Council on Independent Living  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
The Arc of the United States  
VetsFirst, a program of United Spinal  
Association  
Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Cc: The Honorable Jeff Miller, Chairman, HVAC

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• www.c-c-d.org



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The Honorable Tim Walz  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Walz:

On behalf of the Veterans and Military Families Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), we commend you for introducing the CHAMPVA Children's Protection Act, HR 288, which would allow children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program to continue to receive coverage to age 26. As you are aware, CCD is a coalition of more than 100 national disability rights, advocacy, consumer and provider organizations advocating for issues of importance to the nation's 54 million people with disabilities; and the task force is concerned with matters affecting veterans with disabilities and military family members with disabilities.

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