



The Retired Enlisted Association

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FOUNDED 1963
CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

November 29, 2017

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
Chairman, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Phil Roe
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jon Tester
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Walz
Ranking Member, House Committee on Veteran Affairs
336 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Isakson, Chairman Roe, Ranking Member Tester, and Ranking Member Walz,

On behalf of the members of The Retired Enlisted Association, a Congressionally-chartered veteran service organization and the largest association in the nation exclusively for enlisted personnel and veterans from all branches of the Armed Forces, we strongly oppose HR 4149.

We oppose any attempt to cap flight school training that does not take the needs of the vast majority of potential veteran aviators into consideration. This legislation will make it much harder, and in some cases impossible, to achieve a commercially viable private sector pilot's license while using only the Post 9/11 GI Bill. We do not see how that is serving the best interests of veterans.

The commercial aviation industry and the U.S. military have both noted that soon there will be a shortage of properly trained pilots; please do not make it harder for veterans to access this important opportunity at a well-paying career once they are done serving our country.

Thank you for your leadership in successfully resolving the many issues that your committees have worked on this session to make sure our country does a better job caring for America's veterans. Please reach out with any questions you may have to michael.saunders@treadc.org, or 703-681-1981, ext. 103.

Sincerely,

Michael Saunders

Deputy Legislative Director
The Retired Enlisted Association

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