

The American Legion



OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER

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July 13, 2015

The Honorable Julia Brownley
1019 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Brownley,

On behalf of the over 2 million members of The American Legion, I would like to express our support for the *Protecting our Veterans from Financial Fraud Act*. This legislation, as written would ensure that every veteran who participates in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fiduciary program can recover their benefits in cases of misuse from their assigned VA fiduciaries.

An unfortunate aspect of military service is that some service members and veterans develop mental illnesses and in some cases physical injuries that can diminish their capacity to manage their finances on a day to day basis. The American Legion recognizes the importance of a successful fiduciary program. With an aging veteran population and veterans returning after several years in combat where the signature wounds of traumatic brain injury and post traumatic stress disorder can impact cognitive functioning, it is necessary to have a robust and effective fiduciary program available for veterans.

The American Legion supports the *Protecting our Veterans from Financial Fraud Act* and applauds your leadership in addressing this critical issue facing our nation's veterans and their families.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Helm
National Commander
The American Legion