

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc

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June 11, 2014

The Honorable Bernard Sanders Chairman Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs

Senator Sanders:

On behalf of Gold Star Wives Of America, Inc. (GSW) we proudly endorse S. 2450, The Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014.

As you know, GSW has worked with the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs on a number of important issues which affect our members, and we were honored to be asked for input on this important bill. Strengthening benefits and services for surviving spouses and children has been, and continues to be, the primary focus of GSW, and S. 2450 makes gains in this effort.

GSW testified last year on the need to extend benefits to Post 9/11 survivors. We are pleased that members of this committee agreed and language was added to S. 2450 to make surviving spouses eligible for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.

Finally, we applaud your efforts to address the needs of surviving spouses in this bill. We are very much in support of S. 2450 and we look forward to working with this committee on other important issues.

Sincerely,

Carol Ellinger

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Carol Ellinger Chair, Board of Directors Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. Harriet Boyden

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Harriet Boyden President Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.