



National Military Family Association, Inc.

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The Voice
for Military
Families

June 12, 2006

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Clinton:

On behalf of the National Military Family Association (NMFA) and the families it serves, I would like to thank you for introducing the Heroes at Home Act of 2006. This bill would increase information and training to assist with the reintegration and mental health needs of returning members of the National Guard and Reserve, their families, and employers. It would also enhance access to community-based services for service members and families and provide for research on traumatic brain injury and the mental health needs of returning service members

NMFA is especially appreciative of the provision to provide training curricula for family caregivers on caring for service members and veterans with traumatic brain injury. These families, who are already dealing with the debilitating injuries of their loved one, definitely would benefit from this special training to help with the service member's recovery and rehabilitation.

NMFA believes the provision directing the DoD Mental Health Task Force to assess transition and reintegration issues is a most efficient use of resources and should provide insightful recommendations for improving the process.

We appreciate your forethought in ensuring the long-term post-deployment needs of veterans and their families are evaluated. We value your leadership and action to provide for the veterans who have defended the freedoms we hold dear. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Deputy Director for Government Relations Kathy Moakler at 703-931-6632 or moakler@nmfa.org.

Sincerely,

Tanna Schmidli
CEO/Chairman of the Board

April 2003