

March 17, 2017

The Honorable Jon Tester
Ranking Member
Senate Veterans Affairs Committee
Washington, DC 20515

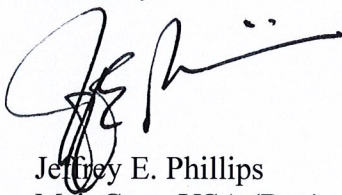
Dear Senator Tester:

The Reserve Officers Association of the United States supports the “Better Workforce for Veterans Act” to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs ability to better manage their workforce, increase accountability, and provide transparency.

The bill contains many common-sense provisions that should be considered for adoption government wide. It increases the ability to recruit hard to fill vacancies with direct-hiring authority in Sec. 102 and reaches more veterans in Sec. 108. However, it also includes innovative hiring methods with students and recent graduates in Sec 101 and with Public Health Service officers in Sec. 209. If enacted, the bill would provide positive efforts to ensure a trained and professional workforce.

ROA has a membership of 50,000 and is the only national military association that exclusively supports all the uniformed reserve components of the United States. Thank you for your efforts on this issue, and your support of our veterans. Please have your staff call Susan Lukas, ROA’s legislative director, at 202-646-7713 or e-mail at slukas@roa.org with any question or issue you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey E. Phillips
Maj. Gen., USA (Ret.)
Executive Director

*Thank you
for your leadership!*