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March 5, 2018

The Honorable Susan Davis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1214 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: H.R.4571: Fair Access to Insurance for Retired (FAIR) Heroes Act of 2017**

Dear Representative Davis:

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I am pleased to express our support for H.R.4571, the Fair Access to Insurance for Retired (FAIR) Heroes Act of 2017. With nearly 2,500 members representing an estimated 300,000 employees, the Chamber is dedicated to growing jobs and commerce in the San Diego region. We recognize the important role veterans play in the community, and remain committed to supporting them through various proposals such as H.R.4571.

H.R.4571 would preserve eligibility for the veterans in the TRICARE program. Currently, certain veterans lose the option of remaining on TRICARE if they are required by law to purchase Medicare Part B, removing care options for those who have served our country. The bill would also waive the Medicare Part B late enrollment penalty for such veterans.

Veterans deserve the opportunity to choose which health system makes the most sense for them. H.R.4571 could decrease costs for these veterans as, currently, there is a late enrollment penalty associated with TRICARE. Additionally, costs could decrease because Medicare Part B premiums total \$1,608 annual, whereas low-cost TRICARE plans are only \$283 per year. These cost savings are significant for some folks and those dollars could be put back into the economy.

It is for these reasons the Chamber supports H.R.4571. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sophie Barnhorst, Public Policy Advisor, at [sbarnhorst@sdchamber.org](mailto:sbarnhorst@sdchamber.org) or (619) 544-1314.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JS' followed by a stylized flourish.

Jerry Sanders  
President & CEO  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce