



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Headquarters
2128 Leroy Place NW
Washington, DC 20008
202-265-0991

Organized 4 June 1928
Incorporated 5 January 1929
Chartered by Congress 12 June 1984
Founded by Grace Darling Seibold

Eric Kim

Legislative Director
U.S. Congressman Matt Van Epps (TN-07)
Eric.Kim@mail.house.gov 202-225-2811

Dear Mr. Kim,

Thank you for reaching out to our Veteran Service Organization, American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., to inquire about supporting the Bill that Congressman Van Epps plans to introduce. Congressman Van Epps' intent with this proposed legislation is to strengthen immediate support for survivors, and we support that as well.

As you mentioned the standard gratuity of \$100,000 has not been updated since FY2006 and the increase to \$200,000 for fallen families of servicemembers is needed at this time. This bill, which allows for annual protection through an automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to ensure the benefit never again loses real value over time, is key to Gold Star Families.

Please accept this letter as our wholehearted support for the "Honoring Our Nation's Obligation to Remember Gold Star Families Act" Bill.

Most Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Annette M. Kirk".

Annette Kirk
President
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

President - Annette Kirk
Secretary - Chanta Vasquez
VAVS Chair - Carla Wicks
Banner Guard - Tammy Bell

1st Vice President - Joyce Paulsen
Treasurer - Theresa Karlson
Sgt at Arms - Denise Torbert
National Service Officer - Rose Duval

2nd Vice President - Teresa Bullock
Chaplain - Sherrie McGhee
Flag Guard - Evelyn Baltierra
Information & Technology Chair - Nichole Chilton