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FRA Launches Legislative Priority Survey

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) is conducting an online survey to elicit input from current and former enlisted personnel on benefits and quality-of-life (QOL) programs available to them. The survey, found at www.fra.org/survey, asks current and former members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard to rate which military benefits are most important to them. FRA will share the results with decision-makers in the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security and with elected officials on Capitol Hill.

“FRA is deeply concerned about the welfare of those who serve our country and the family members who support them. We invite all active duty, Reserve, retired and veterans member of the Sea Services to share their opinions about programs that directly affect their lives. The results will help lawmakers understand the impact of their decisions on troops and their families,” said Joe Barnes, FRA’s National Executive Director.

The results of FRA’s surveys have a strong impact. For example, past FRA surveys have overwhelmingly revealed that respondents value the health care coverage they earn through their military service. The results are regularly shared with Congress and other key decision-makers. Although the discussion on military health care programs and associated costs is far from over, Congress has not increased TRICARE fees or allowed pending health care reform legislation to impact DoD or VA beneficiaries.

About FRA

FRA is a congressionally chartered, non-profit organization representing the interests of current and former enlisted members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. In addition to its advocacy work on Capitol Hill in support of enlisted personnel, FRA also awards scholarships totaling nearly \$100,000 annually, sponsors a national Americanism Essay Contest, and assists its members with disaster relief grants.

The Association is celebrating its 85th anniversary and was named after the Navy's policy of transferring personnel to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve after 20 or more years of active duty, but less than the 30 years required for retirement purposes. Although the membership requirements have changed as the Association has evolved, our purpose – to preserve and enhance military pay, benefits and quality-of-life programs – is as important today as it was in 1924. As the collective voice for all Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard enlisted personnel, FRA speaks on behalf of its members on Capitol Hill. There is no law protecting military benefits, so FRA is here to stand guard.