

125 N. West Street Alexandria, VA 22314-2754 WWW.FRA.ORG 800-FRA-1924 703-683-1400

Fax: 703-549-6610

January 7, 2020

The Honorable Steve Watkins U.S. House of Representatives 1205 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Fax: (202) 225-7986

Dear Congressman Watkins:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) supports your bill (HR5027), to direct the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to furnish free and comprehensive mental health for former members of the Armed Services. The bill will direct the VA to include members who were reserve component or discharged from service without regard to period of active duty or the character of discharge as part of the definition of "former members of the Armed Services."

The Association appreciates your dedication to veteran issues. The FRA point of contact is Theo Lawson, Assistant Director of Legislative Programs, at TheoL@fra.org.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Slawinski National Executive Director

CJS:tl:dt