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May 17, 2013

The Honorable John Kline
U.S. House of Representative
2439 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Fax: 202-225-2595

Dear Representative Kline:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) strongly supports your legislation (H.R. 1971) that would require the Department of Defense (DoD) to authorize current TRICARE Prime beneficiaries that live outside reduced Prime Service Areas (PSA) a one-time election to keep their TRICARE Prime coverage.

Effective October 1, 2013 DoD will limit TRICARE Prime access to beneficiaries who reside with 40 miles of Military Treatment Facilities (MTF), and in areas affected by the 2005 base closure and realignment process (BRAC). This will result in 173,000 retirees and their family members losing their TRICARE Prime coverage and being automatically enrolled in TRICARE Standard.

This is a major concern for our members who view the shrinking of the PSAs as a reduction in earned benefits. The Association appreciates your leadership on this issue and has listed the legislation on its Internet Action Center to encourage FRA members to contact their Representatives to ask for their support. FRA also stands ready to provide further assistance in advancing this legislation.

The point of contact is John Davis, FRA's Director of Legislative Programs, at the above numbers or (john@fra.org).

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. BARNES
National Executive Director

JLB:jd:tw

