

October 28, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
522 Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Fax: 202-224-7327

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
361A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Fax: 202-224-2499

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) is concerned about the prospect of further delay regarding consideration of the FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Act (S. 3454) when the Senate reconvenes in mid-November.

Failure to enact this important legislation during a time of war will not only send the wrong message to troops serving in harms way, but also negatively impact numerous defense programs including benefits for active, Reserve and retired personnel and their families and survivors. These include the 2011 active duty pay increase, a number of special pays and bonuses that will sunset at the end of this calendar year, expanded care and support for wounded warriors and their caregivers, supplemental Impact Aid for schools educating military children and expanded TRICARE coverage for dependent children. The legislation also increases some service end strengths and addresses other critical policies and programs.

This legislation is important to our membership and the Association stands ready to provide assistance in advancing this legislation. The FRA 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:aal

cc: The Honorable Carl Levin
The Honorable John McCain
The Honorable Ike Skelton
The Honorable Howard P. McKeon