

**"As a nation, we owe our soldiers, past and present, the best we can provide for the service they render to freedom."**

--Congressman Mike Pence

I fully believe that we owe the brave men and women of the United States military a debt which can never be repaid. But by meeting the needs of our veterans, we can attempt to repay those who risk and expend their lives in advancement of our freedom.

It is our duty to make sure those who served and their families who endure the many stresses of military life, know that we appreciate their willingness to sacrifice for the cause of freedom. As Americans, we inherit what Lincoln called in his first inaugural address the "mystic chords of memory stretching from every patriot grave." They bind us to the great and the humble, the known and the unknown, of Americans past.

We must always remember those soldiers who have laid down such a sacrifice on our behalf. Throughout my time in Congress I have supported numerous bills to honor and support our veterans such as legislation to establish a VetStar Award Program, legislation for veterans' compensation cost-of-living adjustments, legislation to improve the appeals process for our veterans, and legislation to provide funding for education benefits for our veterans, among others.

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