**NOMINATION OF CONGRESSMAN DENVER RIGGLEMAN FOR VCOC/MOAA FEDERAL LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR**

It is with utmost sincerity and conviction that we nominate Congressman Denver Riggleman for the award of the Virginia Council of Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America FEDERAL LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD. Congressman Denver Riggleman singularly distinguished himself through his untiring and successful efforts in sponsoring or cosponsoring 14 bills directly dealing with veteran’s issues. Most notably is his cosponsorship of the Burn Pitts Accountability Act – a critical piece of legislation that will help our service members who have been exposed to toxic burn pits while deployed to the Middle East. He also cosponsored the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, expanding the coverage of veterans who suffer from the side effects of Agent Orange to those who were on ships off the coast of Vietnam.

Furthermore, Congressman Riggleman’s cosponsored Homeless Veterans Families Act, which provides services to homeless veterans to include money for their children, has already passed the House. His current focus is on the epidemic tragedy of Veterans suicides. Congressman Riggleman is in the process of introducing legislation to address this - specifically those impacted by Post-traumatic stress disorder. In support of that effort, he has already introduced in the house, the Purple Star Families Week resolution that is intended to raise awareness of the issues of veteran’s suicide and help the families affected.

Congressman Riggleman continues to epitomize the concept of a servant leader vice politician, even joining other legislative members of Congress to wash the Vietnam Veterans Memorial as a token of appreciation for their scarifies. A veteran himself, Congressman Riggleman helped launch the Bipartisan Veterans Education Caucus. Its goals are to promote policies to protect and promote student veterans programs, foster innovative ways to support veteran economic opportunities through education, and work for bipartisan solutions to resolve veterans’ education and economic opportunities. Congressman Riggleman also proudly serves as a member of the Congressional Service Women and Women Veterans Caucus.

These bills, as well as the others Congressman Riggleman is sponsoring, combined with his outreach and service to veterans and their causes highlights his leadership and willingness to cross the partisan divide in Washington to work toward tangible solutions for veterans issues. Congressman Denver Riggleman, who represents the Commonwealth of Virginia’s 5th Congressional District, is a stalwart public servant and tireless warrior in support of our Military and Veterans.

Congressman Riggleman has distinguished himself with unwavering commitment and faithfulness to the Nation, its Citizens and his constituents in particular. Congressman Denver Riggleman is a worthy recipient of the Virginia Council of Chapters Award as the FEDERAL LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR.