



# *AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION*

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January 28, 2010

Representative Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
235 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0508

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

On behalf of the Air Force Sergeants Association's 125,000 members, I would like to address H.R. 775, which serves to allow servicemembers' surviving spouses to be adequately compensated for their loss. This legislation is of high interest to many of our members. Our Association represents the *Total Air Force* enlisted corps—current, veteran, and retired members of the Air Force Active Duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve—and their families.

H.R. 775 was introduced by Representative Solomon Ortiz at the beginning of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. This bill ends the offset of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for military survivors. Many surviving spouses have to raise their families alone and do not have an income to fall back on. Congress and the Department of Veterans Administration have expressed their intent to support military family members, as they, too, have "served" their country and weathered the many sacrifices that come with the "duties" of a military spouse and family member.

Since the introduction of this bill it has gained 318 co-sponsors, with five more signing on this past week! Over 2/3 of the House of Representatives have shown their support of this legislation by co-sponsoring H.R. 775. We ask that you take this very important bill and place it on the House agenda so that it can be voted on and signed into law!

Speaker Pelosi, we applaud your hard work and your strong support for those who serve this nation. I offer this Association's assistance to help this legislation move forward, and we look forward to working with you on this and other matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

JOHN R. "DOC" McCAUSLIN, CMSgt, USAF, Retired  
Chief Executive Officer

Serving the *Total Air Force* Enlisted Corps  
And Their Families since 1961