

August 16, 2022

The Honorable Derek Kilmer United States House of Representative 2059 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marc Veasey United States House of Representatives 2348 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Guy Reschenthaler United States House of Representatives 409 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Kilmer, Veasey, and Reschenthaler:

On behalf of the 1.5 million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, I write to support HR 8616, the VA Loan Informed Disclosure Act of 2022, and thank each of you for your continued work to ensure the VA home loan guaranty program remains a viable financing option for veterans. The VA home loan guarantee program has been successful in raising the homeownership rate for veterans to more than 75%, a level much higher than the national average<sup>1</sup>. However, some veterans are not aware of their VA home loan benefit, and increasing transparency and visibility is critical to the success of the program.

The VA Home Loan Guaranty is part of the benefit entitlement promised to our nation's veterans. Private banks provide the loans and the VA guarantees the first 25% of the loan. VA loans have more flexible underwriting, using a variety of methods to provide creditworthy veterans a loan. H.R. 8616 would ensure that all veteran homebuyers are made aware of the VA home loan benefit if they are seeking alternative federal financing. This legislation is a common-sense fix that will make sure our men and women in uniform do not miss out on the benefits of this program.

The VA home loan guarantee program is a vital homeownership tool that provides veterans with a centralized, affordable, and accessible method of purchasing homes as a benefit for their service to our nation. The 1.5 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® thank you for this legislation and look forward to working with you towards its passage.

Sincerely,

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Leslie Rouda Smith 2022 President, National Association of REALTORS®

<sup>1</sup>The Impacts of US Military Service on Homeownership and Income



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