

May 5, 2025

The Honorable Mike Bost Chairman House Veterans Affairs Committee 364 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Mark Takano Ranking Member House Veterans Affairs Committee 550 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bost and Ranking Member Takano:

On behalf of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), thank you for holding this important markup to examine legislation improving the veteran's homebuying experience. NAR members guide veterans through every stage of the homebuying process—from initial home searches to writing and negotiating offers, assisting with inspections and appraisals, and ultimately bringing their clients to the closing table. Most importantly, in today's competitive market, REALTORS® play an essential role in ensuring that home sellers see and consider a veteran's offer.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Home Loan Guaranty is a unique government program allowing veterans to purchase a home without a downpayment. In 2023, the VA Home Loan Guaranty provided financing for roughly 400,000 home purchases and refinances. Over half of the 300,000 purchase loans were for first-time buyers. While the VA's home loan program is a significant source of funding for prospective homeowners, several policy shortcomings may prevent veterans from fully accessing and utilizing this benefit.

To that end, NAR supports H.R. 1815, the VA Home Loan Reform Act, which will help safeguard veterans' ability to maintain access to professional representation in the home search process and remain competitive in the market.

Last year marked the 80th anniversary of the G.I. Bill's passage. Eight decades later, the VA home loan continues to provide veterans who bravely served their country the opportunity to achieve the American Dream of homeownership.

NAR is committed to ensuring veterans have continued access to the VA home loan and are supported with every opportunity to build on their service-earned skills and succeed in the workforce. Thank you again for holding today's markup, and we look forward to working with you and the VA to find a permanent solution that benefits veterans.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Sears

2025 President, National Association of REALTORS®





