

Dear Friend,

I have made advocating for the veterans who fought bravely for our nation a top priority of mine in Congress: to make sure that they come home to the finest medical care, to make certain that they can find a good job when they make it back home, to guarantee that their sacrifices are not forgotten. Sadly, this is often not the case. To make matters worse, there is another group of people that gets overlooked just as frequently as veterans – those who care for our soldiers after they return home.

Last week Congress passed legislation that will protect both our veterans and their caretakers. The Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act provides support for families and caregivers that care for disabled, ill, or injured veterans after they return home.

This legislation will:

- Enhance health services for female veterans;
- Expand access to mental health services for veterans;
- Prohibit copayments for catastrophically disabled veterans;
- Provide support services for caregivers, including instructional and counseling programs;
- Make health care and a stipend available for caregivers living with severely-wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Who Fights for Veterans?

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

This is part of an ongoing effort. Last year, I successfully fought for the largest federal funding amount ever to combat homelessness among veterans on Long Island and nationwide. I've secured more than \$3.4 million in back payments for Long Island veterans. And Congress recently passed my resolution honoring Cold War Veterans and their contributions to American history.

For more information on this legislation and my work fighting for veterans, please visit my website at <http://israel.house.gov>.

Sincerely,

Steve Israel

Member of Congress