



May 16, 2014

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Al Franken  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Stabenow, Blunt, Franken, Moran:

On behalf of more than 700 hospitals and mental health and addiction treatment organizations who serve people of all ages, including military families, we are writing to thank you all for introducing the *Caring for America's Heroes Act*, S.2276. The legislation will bring mental health treatment in line with the way physical injuries are treated under TRICARE and eliminate the limit on the number of days allowed for inpatient treatment for mental health services. Congratulations to all of you for your bipartisanship on these important mental health and substance abuse issues.

Many of our hospitals are reporting the Department of Defense (DoD) military health system has increased pressure on TRICARE managed care to manage and reduce TRICARE healthcare expenditures. The impact of these TRICARE regulatory limitations has resulted in military families not getting access to the care they need.

Thank you, again, for introducing this important mental health bill for our military families. We look forward to working with you and all members of Congress to make the TRICARE mental health and addiction care delivery system more responsive to the needs of people living with these disorders.

Sincerely,

Mark Covall  
President and CEO