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Nation's Largest Military Officers' Association Backs Effort to Preserve Critical Military Benefit

Washington, D.C. (July 26, 2012) – The Nation's largest organization representing 370,000 military officers is backing an effort to preserve one of the key benefits of military service. The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits today announced that the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) has joined the coalition as a Valued Associate.

MOAA joins several other military advocacy organizations that have recently stepped forward to rally behind the Shopping Benefit Coalition's efforts to increase public awareness of the contributions that commissaries and exchanges make to every day military life.

Save Our Benefit is working to preserve the military resale system, which saves military families billions of dollars off of their day-to-day purchases and underwrites billions of dollars in on-base aid to military personnel and their families. During the past year, there have been calls in some sectors to curtail these benefits.

MOAA, which is the largest association of military officers in the nation, advocates on behalf of current and former military officers at all stages of their careers. Its primary mission is to ensure that soldiers and veterans are compensated and receive appropriate benefits in return for their service.

"It's a great honor to join the Save Our Benefit Coalition as a Valued Associate," said MOAA's President, Vice Admiral Norb Ryan. "We believe commissaries and exchanges are highly valued throughout the entire military community and strongly support the Save Our Benefit mission of protecting this critical benefit."

"Throughout its 84-year history, the MOAA has been instrumental in protecting the benefits of our military service members," said Patrick Nixon, President of the Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits. "This organization has repeatedly stepped out front to turn-back any effort to reduce these benefits," Nixon said. "The military shopping benefits are vital to the welfare of military families, and we are very pleased to have the support of the MOAA as we fight to preserve them."

[The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits](http://www.saveourbenefit.org)
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Military resale programs save military families 20 to 50 percent off their purchases and provide billions of dollars in aid to on-base community support programs. Nearly 50,000 veterans and military families are employed on bases at exchange, commissary and community sales outlets with more than 60 percent of workers in commissaries having a military affiliation.

MOAA has a membership of about 370,000 and is the country's largest military officers' association. The association plays an active role in military personnel matters and especially proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services. Its purpose has also grown to include career transition assistance, improved member products, military benefits counseling, educational assistance to children of military families (to include enlisted), and strong involvement in military professionalism activities.

For more information on the Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits, please visit www.SaveOurBenefit.org.

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