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## **Save Our Benefit to Salute U.S. Olympians with Gold Medal Shopping Spree**

*Organization dedicated to preserving critical military benefit launching  
'Honoring Pride, Chasing Gold' contest  
Grand Prize pool will grow with every U.S. Olympic Gold*

**Washington, D.C. (July 26, 2012)** – The Coalition to Save our Military Shopping Benefits, a group advocating for the preservation and patronage of commissaries and exchanges, is launching a new “Honoring Pride, Chasing Gold” contest to salute U.S. Olympians in this year’s Summer Olympic Games. The contest will award one lucky military commissary patron a Gold Medal Shopping Spree worth potentially thousands of dollars in free groceries.

Every time the U.S. Olympic Team wins gold in London, the progressive Gold Medal Shopping Spree grand prize pool will grow by \$50. If a U.S. military Olympian wins gold, the prize will grow by \$100. The randomly selected grand prize winner will receive the total value of all the U.S. gold medal victories. To enter, participants must visit [www.SaveOurBenefit.org](http://www.SaveOurBenefit.org) and enter their email address. Contestants can follow the contest on the Coalition’s Facebook page. The winner will be announced Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

“We’re excited to launch this “Honoring Pride, Chasing Gold contest that will give one lucky patron a Gold Medal Shopping Spree at their local commissary,” said Patrick Nixon, president of the Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits. “The more golds our U.S. Olympians win, the more savings our grand prize winner will accumulate. And we’re highlighting Team USA’s military Olympians by making any gold medals they win worth twice the savings!”

This year’s Team USA soldier Olympians include seven athletes and three coaches: Sergeant Spenser Mango, wrestling; SFC Daryl Szarenski, free pistol and air pistol; Staff Sergeant John Nunn, race walk; SMC Dremiel Byers, wrestling; SFC Keith Sanderson, rapid fire pistol; SPC Dennis Bowsher, modern pentathlon; and SPC Justin Lester, wrestling. In addition, Staff Sergeants Joe Guzman and Charles Leverette will serve as two of Team USA’s boxing coaches. Major David Johnson is one of Team USA’s rifle coaches.

[The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits](http://www.TheCoalitiontoSaveOurMilitaryShoppingBenefits.org)  
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“These athletes and coaches have sacrificed greatly to serve this country in the military and now they are making our nation proud during these Olympics,” added Nixon. “We are proud to salute this exceptional service, and we encourage patrons and supporters to visit our website to enter and for more information on ways to take advantage of all the savings offered on a daily basis through the military resale system.”

Military resale programs save military families 20 to 50 percent off their purchases and provides 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, while more than 60 percent of workers in commissaries have a military affiliation.

These benefits are being threatened by looming sequestration, the Deficit Reduction Panel, and individual and committee efforts taking place in Congress that are aimed at balancing the budget. In recent weeks a variety of groups and organizations have signed on to join the Coalition, including the Military Officers Association of America, National Industries for the Blind, Fleet Reserve Association, and the National Military Family Association.

For more information on the Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits, please visit [www.SaveOurBenefit.org](http://www.SaveOurBenefit.org).

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