



### **Coalition urges Senate Appropriations Committee support for Senator Mikulski amendment restoring full commissary funding**

Save Our Benefit

The Save Our Benefit coalition and nearly 40 organizations – representing tens of millions of active duty, Guard and Reserve, retirees, military families, Veterans, and survivors – strongly supports and urges your support of Senator Mikulski’s amendment to the FY2016 Defense Appropriations Bill. Senator Mikulski’s amendment restores \$322 million in commissary funding. The Senate Armed Service Committee’s version of the Defense Bill, S. 1376 sets in motion price increases and reduced operating hours and would severely damage a benefit relied upon by millions of military service members and their families, and would impact those who need it most—junior enlisted families, fixed income retirees, and surviving families. Military families rely on this benefit to stretch their household budgets and provide healthy food for the well being of their families. These cuts also occur without the benefit of a report requested by the Committee in the FY15 National Defense Authorization Act that has yet to be provided to Congress.

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### **Coalition urges support for Senator Mikulski amendment restoring cuts from the commissary program**

Save Our Benefit

The Coalition to Save our Military Shopping Benefits represents millions of active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve, retirees, veterans, military families, survivors, and persons with disabilities. We strongly support your amendment to S. 1376, *the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016*, that restores the cuts from the commissary program.... We greatly appreciate your continued efforts to protect these critical earned benefits, which are the benchmark for our nation’s commitment to our service members and their families who sacrifice the most for our freedom.

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### **NMVA urges support for Senator Mikulski amendment to restore cuts to the commissary program**

National Military and Veterans Alliance

Chairman Cochran, Ranking Member Mikulski and Members, Committee on Appropriations: The National Military and Veterans Alliance, a non-partisan policy and advocacy organization composed of military and veteran service organizations, urges your support for Senator Barbara Mikulski’s amendment to the fiscal 2016 Defense Appropriations Bill that restores substantial budget cuts to the commissary program. Commissary and exchanges are a vital part of military pay and compensation. The military community greatly value and use these earned benefits.

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### **Military Families urge Senators to protect commissary funding**

National Military Family Association

One of our highest priorities is protecting military families’ earned benefits, including the savings achieved by shopping at the commissary. For this reason, we support amending the *Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016* to restore \$322 million in funding to the commissary. We ask for the Appropriations Committee’s support of this important legislation. Military families consistently tell us how much they value the commissary benefit and the savings they receive by shopping there. In fact, the commissary benefit and the savings it provides are essential elements of military compensation.

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