The American Legion

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OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER

August 14, 2017

The Honorable Tom MacArthur
United States House of Representatives
506 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative MacArthur:

On behalf of the more than 2.2 million members of The American Legion, we express full support for the legislation entitled, *Fairness for Korean DMZ Veterans Act of 2017*. H.R. 3605, as currently written, would change the earliest date of eligibility for a presumption of Agent Orange exposure from April 1, 1968, to September 1, 1967, for vets who served at or near the DMZ.

Veterans who served this nation honorably should never be denied assistance when returning home from injuries sustained while fighting for this country. This bill will assist those veterans in obtaining treatment from the VA by including the presumption of Agent Orange exposure to active duty service members who were stationed near the DMZ before April 1, 1968.

Resolution Number 35, entitled *Agent Orange,* which was passed at The American Legion's National Convention in 2016 urges Congress to vigorously support the liberalization of the rules relating to the evaluation of studies involving exposure to dioxin and the adjudication of claims based on Agent Orange exposure.

We greatly appreciate the work of your office on this important proposal that will positively affect thousands of American veteran and their families. The American Legion will continue to work closely with you to ensure that veterans and their families rally across this country for these improvements.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schmidt

CHARLES E. SCHMIDT
National Commander