



May 18, 2026

The Honorable Jack Bergman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bergman:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) supports H.R. 7683, the "VA Fiscal Management and Modernization Act," and thanks you for introducing this legislation. By clarifying and strengthening the authority of VA's senior financial leadership, this bill provides the foundation needed to sustain investments in Electronic Health Record Modernization, disability compensation delivery, and the broader VA mission that FRA's 2026 Legislative Pillars depend on.

Strong financial management is not a back-office concern. Material weaknesses in VA financial reporting have, for years, complicated budget defenses on Capitol Hill, slowed obligation of funds appropriated for veterans' care, and undermined congressional confidence at moments when the Department needs to be in the strongest possible posture. Granting the Assistant Secretary for Management clear statutory authority to modernize financial oversight processes will help close those weaknesses, support credible budget submissions, and improve the timeliness of payments and reimbursements that affect veterans directly.

FRA urges passage of H.R. 7683 and recommends ensuring the final bill includes clear lines of reporting between the VA's chief financial officer and the Secretary. For more information, please contact Theo Lawson, Director of Legislative Programs, at TheoL@fra.org.

Sincerely,

DONNA M. JANSKY
National Executive Director