



May 18, 2026

The Honorable Ronny Jackson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Jackson:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) supports H.R. 6444, the "Blast Overpressure Research and Mitigation Task Force Act," and thanks you for introducing this legislation. FRA, the nation's oldest and largest organization representing Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard members, sees this bill as directly responsive to the long-standing gap between blast exposure during service and the health care and benefits delivered to those who carry its consequences.

Sea service members carry a disproportionate share of the blast overpressure burden. Navy explosive ordnance disposal technicians, Marine Corps infantry, gun crews, and breachers, and Coast Guard boarding teams have served across two decades of high-tempo operations in which low-level repetitive blast exposure was the norm rather than the exception. Establishing baselines for physiological and cognitive performance, integrating diagnostic tools, and requiring annual reports to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Armed Services will close the evidentiary gap that has slowed presumptive claims and complicated care for thousands of sea service veterans diagnosed with traumatic brain injury and related conditions.

FRA urges advancement of H.R. 6444 in its current form, without amendments that would weaken its research scope, delay its standup, or condition its operations on unrelated administrative reforms. For more information, please contact Theo Lawson, Director of Legislative Programs, at TheoL@fra.org.

Sincerely,

DONNA M. JANSKY
National Executive Director