

September 20, 2016

United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of managers and supervisors currently serving our nation in the federal government and whose interests are represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), I am writing to respectfully ask you to vote for the Federal Aviation Administration Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016 (H.R. 5957) when it is considered on the full House floor this week. This bipartisan legislation, sponsored by Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA) and Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ), would extend the existing disabled veteran leave category to eligible employees within the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) with a disability rating of 30 percent or higher for the purposes of receiving medical care related to their service-connected condition.

H.R. 5957 builds on the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act (H.R. 313), legislation led by Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Blake Farenthold (R-TX), which created disabled veteran leave as a new leave category for federal employees (P.L. 114-75). The new law does not apply to FAA employees and other non-Title V employees. H.R. 5957 recognizes this and provides parity for FAA employees with their counterparts in other federal agencies.

America's disabled veterans who continue serving our nation in the FAA deserve to have access to disabled veteran leave they have rightfully earned with their sacrifices. Swift action this year is necessary so that new disabled veteran employees, who have already given so much in service to our country, do not have to choose between getting a paycheck and getting the care they need during their first year on the job. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Government Affairs Director Greg Stanford at gstanford@fedmanagers.org or (703) 683-8700.

Sincerely,



Renee Johnson
National President