

April 02, 2025

**The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510**

**Dear Senator Murray,**

As the Executive Director of the Veterans Education Project (VEP), I write today to express our strong support for the Purple Heart Veterans Education Act of 2025 (S.342) and commend Senator Murray for her leadership in advancing this bipartisan legislation. This commendable legislation seeks to rectify a significant oversight in our veterans' benefits system, ensuring that all Purple Heart recipients have the opportunity to transfer their well-deserved educational benefits to their dependents, regardless of when they received their honor.

Historically, the Post-9/11 GI Bill allowed service members to transfer educational benefits to their dependents after six years of service, contingent upon an additional four-year commitment. In 2018, the Department of Defense extended this provision to include Purple Heart recipients, acknowledging their extraordinary sacrifices. However, a critical gap remained: veterans who were awarded the Purple Heart post-discharge were excluded from this benefit. The Purple Heart Veterans Education Act addresses this disparity by permitting all Purple Heart recipients to transfer their unused educational assistance to their family members, irrespective of the timing of their award.

The Purple Heart, awarded to those wounded or killed while serving, symbolizes profound bravery and sacrifice. It is imperative that our nation's policies reflect unwavering support for these heroes and their families. By enabling all Purple Heart recipients to transfer their educational benefits, this legislation not only honors their service but also invests in the futures of their loved ones.

We urge Congress to swiftly pass this legislation to uphold our nation's commitment to **honoring and supporting Purple Heart recipients** and their families. The **Veterans Education Project** looks forward to working with policymakers to ensure its successful enactment.

**Sincerely,**

Donald Franklin  
Executive Director  
Veterans Education Project