

VA's bureaucratic decision to take away the presumption of exposure for Blue Water Navy veterans was a mistake when it was made in 2002 and it is long past time for Congress to correct this grave error before it is too late for the Vietnam generation to receive justice.

Mr. President, we respectfully ask you to lend your personal support to passing the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (H.R. 299) in the Senate. A public statement of support for the legislation indicating that you would sign this bill could help to persuade Senators Enzi and Lee to drop their opposition to allowing the Senate to hold a vote, where we are confident it would receive overwhelming support.

We thank you for all you have done to support America's veterans and respectfully ask you to help provide the leadership necessary to pass this important legislation in the Senate. We look forward to the day when you will be able to sign this legislation and finally pay a long overdue debt to thousands of Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans.

Respectfully,



Garry J. Augustine  
Washington Executive Director  
DAV (Disabled American Veterans)



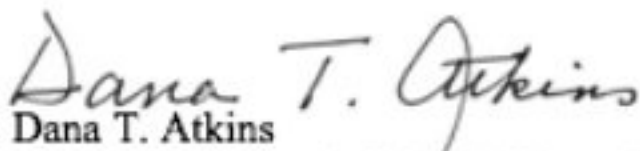
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Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



Louis Celli, Jr.  
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Government & Veterans Affairs  
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Carl Blake  
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