



**Statement for the Record – HR 2283
May 11, 2026**

Chairman Bost, Ranking Member Takano and Members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

In January of this year, we submitted a statement to the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs expressing our enthusiastic support of HR 2283, the Recognizing Community Organizations for Veteran Engagement and Recovery Act (RECOVER Act). Once again, we want to convey our support for the bill as amended based on testimony received at the Subcommittee hearing on January 13. We are hopeful that these improvements to the bill will result in a convincing vote at the upcoming markup on May 14.

We believe that the revisions made by the Committee will considerably strengthen this pilot program that will evaluate whether specialized, community-based care models improve access, engagement, and mental health outcomes for veterans and their families. Specifically, the amendments:

- 1) Require stronger standards for providers, ensuring they have the expertise needed to effectively treat veteran-specific mental health needs.
- 2) Improve veteran-specific training requirements that maintain the bill's focus while creating clearer and more measurable prerequisites.
- 3) Provide stronger oversight and accountability by strengthening outcome measurement and reporting requirements to improve program evaluation.
- 4) Improve care coordination by requiring providers to coordinate with the Veterans Administration's continuity of care model to help reduce fragmented care between community providers and the VA healthcare system.
- 5) Expand support for veteran families by allowing grant funding to support spouses and dependent children when clinically necessary to support a veteran's treatment.
- 6) Prioritize veteran-focused providers who demonstrate a mission of serving veterans or military-connected populations.

Easter Seals Serving DC MD VA is committed to breaking down barriers to mental health care for veterans and providing lifesaving, timely support through the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Easterseals. By supporting this legislation, you will play a pivotal role in expanding access to life-changing care for veterans and significantly lowering the risk of mental health crises, including suicide.

Thank you for your continued advocacy for U.S. military veterans and we hope we can count on your support of HR 2283.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Horowitz", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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