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February 4, 2025

The Honorable Mike Bost  
12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Illinois  
Chairman, House Veterans Affairs Committee  
1211 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bost,

On behalf of AMAC Action, the advocacy affiliate of AMAC - the Association of Mature American Citizens, and our more than 2 million members, I write to express strong support for the Veterans' ACCESS Act of 2025. This critical legislation upholds the core American values of choice, accountability, and putting veterans first – ensuring that those who fought for our freedoms are not forced into a broken, bureaucratic healthcare system that delays care and limits their options.

Recent actions by the Veterans Administration (VA) have undermined Congressional intent by prioritizing the growth of government bureaucracy over veterans' access to timely care. The Veterans' ACCESS Act of 2025 will codify the access standards that the VA must follow, ensuring that no future administration can manipulate wait times, restrict referrals, or reduce veterans' healthcare choices.

This bill is especially crucial for rural and older veterans, who often live hours away from VA medical centers and rely on community-based providers for their care. Additionally, for veterans facing mental health or substance abuse crises, time is of the essence. When a veteran makes the decision to seek help for addiction or PTSD, they cannot afford to be put on a waiting list or denied access to a treatment facility that could save their life. The Veterans' ACCESS Act of 2025 ensures these critical treatments are accessible without delay.

Furthermore, transparency and accountability must be restored in the VA. No veteran should be denied access to community care without a full explanation, a clear presentation of their rights, and an opportunity to appeal. The ACCESS Act will reinforce that veterans, not government bureaucrats, should be in control of their healthcare choices.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue. We look forward to working with you to protect veterans' healthcare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew J. Mangione Jr.".

Andrew J. Mangione Jr.  
Senior Vice President, AMAC Action