Dear Representative ,

I am writing to urge your support for H.R.1815/S. 495, the Expanding Veterans’ Options for Long Term Care Act—bipartisan legislation introduced by Rep. Elissa Slotkin (Mich.) and Rep. Bryan Steil (Wisc).

Assisted living services can benefit veterans with certain conditions, such as a moderate traumatic brain injury, who may need help with daily care, but not as much help as a skilled nursing facility provides. Exact arrangements can vary, but assisted living residents usually live in their own apartments or rooms and share common areas. They have access to supportive services, including up to three meals a day; assistance with personal care; help with medications, housekeeping and laundry; access to 24-hour on-site staff; and generally some social and recreational activities.

The Expanding Veterans’ Options for Long Term Care Act would require the VA to implement a three-year pilot program to provide assisted living services in six geographically diverse areas. Veterans who would be eligible to participate are those who are already receiving nursing home level care paid for by the VA, are eligible for such care from the VA, or exceed the requirements for domiciliary care paid for by the VA but do not meet the requirements for nursing home level care paid for by the VA.

It is important that the VA provide a full spectrum of long-term care services and supports to meet the unique needs of service-disabled veterans. I urge you to co-sponsor this important legislation. Please advise me of your intentions with respect to this bill.

Sincerely,