



# IRAQ *and* AFGHANISTAN VETERANS *of* AMERICA

August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
2413 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman DeLauro:

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) is proud to offer our support for H.R. 3337, The Post 9/11 Veterans' Job Training Act. This bill would allow veterans to pursue vocational training programs such as Police and Fire Academies under the new GI Bill. Currently the Post 9/11 GI Bill, unlike every other GI Bill, does not provide any benefits for veterans participating in OJT or apprenticeship programs.

The WWII GI Bill sent over 8 million veterans to school, many of whom did not seek college degrees but rather participated in vocational training programs like OJT and apprenticeship. Unfortunately modern veterans who are pursuing vocational training will not be able to access Chapter 33 benefits. IAVA believes that veterans should have a choice on how they use their education benefits, just like our grandfathers did in WWII.

We are proud to offer our assistance on this piece of legislation. If we can be of any help please feel free to contact me at (202) 544-7692 or [Patrick@java.org](mailto:Patrick@java.org). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Campbell  
Chief Legislative Counsel