



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF  
VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

101 N. 14<sup>TH</sup> ST., 17<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
RICHMOND, VA 23219

*Air Force Association*  
*American Legion*  
*AMVETS*  
*Association of the United States Army*  
*Disabled American Veterans*  
*Fifth Baptist Veterans Ministry*  
*Fleet Reserve Association*  
*Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America*  
*Korean War Veterans Association*  
*Legion of Valor of the U.S., Inc.*  
*Marine Corps League*  
*Military Order of the Purple Heart*  
*Military Officers Association of America*  
*Military Order of the World Wars*  
*Navy Mutual Aid Association*  
*Navy Seabee Veterans of America*  
*Non-Commissioned Officers Association*  
*Paralyzed Veterans of America*  
*Reserve Officers Association*  
*Roanoke Valley Veterans Council*  
*Veterans of Foreign Wars*  
*Vietnam Veterans of America*  
*Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association*  
*Virginia National Guard Association*  
*Women Marines Association*

October 30, 2020

The Honorable Carlos L. Hopkins  
Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Request your support in ensuring all members of the Virginia National Guard receive annual briefings on the State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) program

Dear Secretary Hopkins:

The Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) requests your assistance in ensuring that all members of the Virginia National Guard (VaNG) receive an annual briefing on the SSLI program, facilitated and coordinated through the Adjutant General.

SSLI is an exclusive benefit available to members of the VaNG, one that should be readily available. Affording soldiers and airmen time during training and/or drill weekends to purchase SSLI, set up allotments, and change or designate beneficiaries provides a critical state-sponsored benefit to Guard members and incentivizes continued service.

SSLI derived from United States Public Law 92-289 in 1974 to "encourage persons to join and remain in the National Guard."

Our point of contact is Mr. Robert Barnett of the Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association. He may be reached at [r.barnette55@gmail.com](mailto:r.barnette55@gmail.com).

Thank you for your service to our Nation and to Virginia's service members, veterans, and their families.

Sincerely,

William B. Ashton  
Chairman  
Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations

Cc: John Maxwell  
Commissioner, Virginia Department of Veterans Services