

January 25, 2024

The Honorable Tommy Tuberville Senator from Alabama 455 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tuberville,

On behalf of over 2.1 million members of AMAC – Association of Mature American Citizens, including over 33,300 members residing in Alabama, I write to offer our support for S. 3490, the "No VA Resources for Illegal Aliens Act."

There is a strong constitutional and historical case that the United States should take good care of her brave Veterans, having lived in the service of their nation under the constitutional provisions that allow our government to maintain a military. There are no such constitutional provisions for the care of illegal aliens in our country.

In a July 12, 2023, report issued by Patrick Lechleirtner<sup>1</sup>, then Deputy Director and Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a paragraph in Section II.A. states:

"ICE contracts with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Financial Services Center (VAFSC) to process medical claims reimbursements;"

This function is apparently performed by the "VA Franchise Fund", and while the VA does not actually perform medical care for illegal aliens, any portion of the VA's resources directed to the care or administration of illegal aliens reduces the resources available to care for American Veterans. Not only should VA resources be focused on the wellbeing of our Veterans, but no American taxpayer dollars should be used for the care of people who have illegally entered our nation.

Your bill, the "No VA Resources for Illegal Aliens" not only prohibits the VA from assigning resources to the administration of healthcare claims filed by illegal aliens, but it also prevents the VA from actually providing healthcare in the future; a totally plausible abuse of VA funding that would result from a wholly inappropriate impetus to care for illegal immigrants crossing our border instead of Veterans who deserve the best efforts our Veterans Administration can provide.

Thank you, Senator Tuberville, for advancing S. 3490. As an organization comprised of many Veterans, AMAC is pleased to offer our full support for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Bob Carlstrom President AMAC Action

1: Healthcare Costs for Noncitizens in Detention, July 12, 2023, FY 2022 ICE Report to Congress