



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Office of the Governor**

Glenn Youngkin  
Governor

June 3, 2024

The Honorable Louise Lucas  
Chair, Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee  
201 North 9th Street, 13th Floor  
General Assembly Building  
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Luke Torian  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
201 North 9th Street, 12th Floor  
General Assembly Building  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Chair Lucas and Chair Torian:

Thank you for your June 3, 2024, letter regarding the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP). For the men and women who put their lives on the line for our freedoms, providing for their family's education is a top priority. The recent changes to VMSDEP eligibility made by HB 6001 have been met with substantive concern from the military and veteran family community.

I appreciate your expressed desire to work together collaboratively on changes to preserve VMSDEP for the future through the Preserving VMSDEP Task Force. I also appreciate our recent discussions on the approaches we may take to address the concerns of our military and veteran families.

While we are committed to moving forward with the Task Force and studying this issue, it is clear we must repeal the substantive changes included in Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2024, Special Session I, and ensure any potential future amendments by the General Assembly are thoroughly studied, and our military and veteran families are heard.

The General Assembly finished its budget business on May 13, 2024, but chose not to adjourn the 2024 Special Session I. We can work together to repeal the adopted language within the current special session, or I will convene a concurrent special session pursuant to Article IV, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, either of which should occur before June 30<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to continuing our productive conversations on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Glenn Youngkin

cc: The Honorable Don Scott, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Mamie Locke, Chair, Senate Committee on Rules  
The Honorable Scott Surovell, Senate Majority Leader  
The Honorable Charniele Herring, House Majority Leader  
The Honorable Ryan McDougle, Senate Republican Leader  
The Honorable C. Todd Gilbert, House Republican Leader