



MISSION: READINESS
MILITARY LEADERS FOR KIDS

July 27, 2016

The Honorable Donna Pfautsch
Missouri House of Representatives
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 236-B
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Representative Pfautsch,

On behalf of the members of Mission: Readiness Missouri, thank you for your leadership and support of SB638, which repeals the statutory language that prohibited quality rating systems for assessing the efficacy of early childhood education programs and establishes a voluntary three-year quality assurance pilot program

As you might know, the latest figures from the Department of Defense tell us that 71 percent of young Americans between the ages of 17 and 24 are unfit to serve in the military due to poor education, obesity, or a history of crime or drug abuse. Research has shown that ensuring young children have a strong start in life and access to high-quality early education can generate many benefits in the years to come, including more young people who are able to serve our Nation.

This legislation is a step in the right direction to ensuring that Missouri children grow up to be citizen-ready and have the option of serving in the military should they choose to do so, and we applaud your work on behalf of the young people in our state.

Very Respectfully,

Major General (Ret.) Tracy E. Strevey
U.S. Army
Frontenac

Brigadier General (Ret.) Daryl McCall
U.S. Army
Parkville