

# [IAVA Applauds Introduction of Military Parental Leave Modernization Act](#)

**WASHINGTON (March 24, 2016)** – In response to the introduction of the [Military Parental Leave Modernization Act](#) (H.R. 4796) by Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) Chief of Staff Allison Jaslow issued the following statement:

“Rep. Duckworth’s bill is an important step toward ensuring that military families have modern policies that allow them to provide the support and care that all military children deserve. As part of IAVA’s policy agenda to support military families, IAVA has continually called for parental leave to extend to adoptive parents and fathers. After 14 years of constant military deployments, this policy change is long overdue. In addition, IAVA urges the Department of Defense to extend parental leave from 12 weeks to 18 weeks. Updating these antiquated policies is critical for maintaining a ready and capable force.”