



ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

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General Gordon R. Sullivan
United States Army (Ret.)
President

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On behalf of the more than 105,000 members of the Association of the United States Army, I thank you for introducing the Post 9/11 Troops to Teachers Enhancement Act. AUSA heartily endorses this legislation that would make the Troops to Teachers program more accessible by reducing length of service requirements; expanding the number of school districts in which participants can qualify for a stipend towards the costs of becoming a teacher; and creating an advisory board charged with improving awareness of the program, increasing participation, and ensuring that the program meets the needs of our schools and our veterans.

Since 1994, when the Troops to Teachers (TTT) was established to help those transitioning to civilian life become teachers, the TTT program has contributed to the gender and racial diversity of the teaching workforce. It has also increased the number of teachers in priority subject areas such as math, science, special education, and vocational education. TTT is funded by the Department of Education at about \$15 million a year and run by a Defense Department agency called the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support.

TTT costs a very small amount of money yet creates an enormous payoff, not only for the participating veterans but also for the students who benefit from positive role models. AUSA is proud to add its name to the list of organizations that endorse this legislation.

Sincerely,

GORDON R. SULLIVAN
General, USA Retired