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CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL of HONOR FOUNDATION

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August 15, 2005

The Honorable John T. Salazar
1531 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Salazar:

The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation applauds your initiative to sponsor the Stolen Valor Act of 2005 (HR 3352) and expresses its strong support for its passage. The men and women who have served our country with such distinction today and in past generations deserve the utmost respect from the American people for their courage, sacrifices, and patriotism.

It is outrageous that imposters can pretend to be heroes by giving the appearance that they have served in the nation's military and received its highest awards for valor. This is particularly true of the Medal of Honor, the highest award our nation can bestow on a member of the United States military for valor in combat. These "fakes" only serve to detract from the tremendous respect that has been earned by those who have served so selflessly by putting their lives on the line for their country and comrades.

In short, this bill will close significant loopholes and afford the men and women who have served with distinction the greatest possible respect and honor for their acts of bravery. We thank you for your commitment to our country and its freedoms, and the men and women who serve today in the same spirit of courage and sacrifice as the generations that preceded them.

Very respectfully,

Nicholas B. Kehoe
President