Please contact your two senators today and request that they support the Durbin-Blunt amendment to protect the Department of Defense’s medical research program!

Talking Points:

- The Durbin-Blunt amendment would nullify several harmful provisions of the fiscal 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that greatly threaten progress made through medical research funded by DoD.

- Unless the Amendment is adopted, the language currently in the bill would jeopardize critical funding for research on congenital heart disease and other illnesses at the DoD.

- Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-related infant mortality. The medical research programs at DoD have produced important advances in CHD research, including the study that found a higher prevalence of CHD among infants born in Gulf War veteran families. Further research in these areas will benefit the children of military families and will have broader implications for all American families who are or will be affected by CHD.