Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Herbert:

It occurs to me that this Congress has not been doing anything of importance to benefit our veterans, and I believe that it is appropriate that some action should be taken. I suggest, therefore, that it would be desirable to offer veterans of World War II and Korea the opportunity of renewing their life insurance under the National Life Insurance program.

Many of them have failed to take out this insurance or have failed to continue maintaining this coverage because of financial difficulties earlier in life or failure to realize the importance of the protection it affords. In my opinion, they should be given an opportunity to renew or to obtain this protection initially; and I am attaching a copy of a draft bill which I propose to introduce.

This bill would permit any veteran to obtain this insurance if he were otherwise eligible under the previous legislation and in good health. He would, of course, pay premiums based upon his attained age at the effective date of such insurance. The only cost to the Government would be the cost of administering the program, which would be relatively small in terms of the benefits to the veterans' families and to the contribution to the stability of the economy generally.

I have discussed this proposal with the national legislative representatives of the American Legion, the VFW, the AMVETS, and the Military Order of the World Wars. If you would like to join in co-sponsoring this measure, please let my office know as soon as you have been able to give the matter your attention.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]