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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

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June 11, 2012

Jack Leonard
National Adjutant
Military Order of the Purple Heart
5413-A, B & C Backlick Road
Springfield, VA 22151-3960

Dear Mr. Leonard:

On June 5, 2012, the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight held a hearing entitled, "Veterans Employment and Government Contractors." At the hearing, veterans service organizations and contractors discussed the challenges currently facing veterans as they seek employment opportunities after concluding military service.

As part of the Subcommittee's ongoing oversight of veterans employment, I am seeking the assistance of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. I invite you to provide official comments on the topics discussed at the hearing, including what the Military Order of the Purple Heart sees as the greatest challenges facing our veterans as they seek employment. I would also appreciate your input regarding the following questions:

- (1) What changes (if any) should be made to the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) to match veterans with resources?
- (2) Does the Military Order of the Purple Heart have suggestions on how to address the disproportionate unemployment experienced by members of the National Guard and Reserve?
- (3) Would moving the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training (VETS) from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans Affairs better serve veterans seeking employment assistance?
- (4) Should the federal government continue to collect the data for the VETS-100 and VETS-100A forms?
- (5) What changes (if any) should be made to the VETS-100 and VETS-100A forms to ensure that the most relevant and helpful data is captured?

I would also welcome your input on any other matter that would inform the discussion of issues related to veterans employment.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108th Congress); and Senate Resolution 73 (111th Congress).

Please contact Sarah Garcia at (202) 224-1014 with any questions. Please send any official correspondence relating to this request to Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

cc: Rob Portman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight