

Keeping the promise

to our service men and women.



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Representative
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If you'd like me to keep you up-to-date on these and other issues, contact my office at the phone numbers listed here or visit my website at www.wassermanschultz.house.gov and sign up for my electronic newsletter.



www.wassermanschultz.house.gov

Dear Friend:

After nearly nine years of incredible service and sacrifice, America's war in Iraq has finally come to an end. We have more troops returning home each day, and as they do, we must pay tribute to the men and women who have sacrificed so much.

Since America started deploying troops in 2001, Florida has had more than 226,000 men and women sent overseas, the second highest of any state in the nation. We now have 23 million veterans living across our country, and Florida is home to more than 1.6 million of them.

As our men and women return home, we must ensure that they have access to the help they need to transition to civilian life and that they are taken care of when it comes to health care, housing, and caring for their families.

America's brave men and women in uniform should be able to count on the full and unwavering support of their government. We must never forget their service and sacrifice, and we must stand firm in our commitment to help them as they return to civilian life. As a Member of Congress I will always honor their service and the sacred trust that connects us with those who have dedicated themselves to fighting to protect the freedoms we enjoy in the United States of America.

I am proud to be an advocate for South Florida, and my office is always open to you. You can reach us in Pembroke Pines at 954-437-3936, in Aventura at 305-936-5724 and in Washington, DC at 202-225-7931. I'm also available online at <http://wassermanschultz.house.gov>, on Facebook, DWS app for mobile devices, and Comcast-on-demand customers can stay up to date with my work for you on channel 890.



Rep. Wasserman Schultz meets with veterans and active duty guardsmen at her Veterans Jobs Fair in Fort Lauderdale.

Debbie

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Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz: "I will always fight for the people who fight for us."

Veterans Jobs Fair

In November, I co-hosted a Veterans Jobs Fair with Congressman Ted Deutch (FL-19) to help connect hundreds of veterans and military families with employment opportunities. There were also people on hand to talk about how to enroll in the VA health system, student financial assistance, and other benefits. We look forward to working together to hold additional job fairs in the coming year.

Helping Our Veterans

We've been working to relieve unemployment among our veterans and support our military families. Right before Thanksgiving, President Obama signed into law two new tax credits. The Returning Heroes Tax Credit is a new hiring tax credit that provides an incentive for businesses to hire unemployed veterans.

The Wounded Warrior Tax Credit doubles the existing tax credit for long-term unemployed veterans with service-connected disabilities. Additionally, thanks to the president's Veterans Employment Initiative, we have some encouraging news - the federal government has hired the highest percentage of veterans in more than 20 years.

Veterans History Project

Every year we host a project where high school students interview veterans and the stories become part of the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress. The American Folklife Center keeps an interactive database of the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations can better understand the realities of war from the people who played a part in their history.

Ending Veteran Homelessness

A new national report shows that homelessness among veterans has been reduced by a significant 12 percent since last year, according to the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development. This is due in large part to the successful initiatives launched by the Obama Administration to meet the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015.



Rep. Wasserman Schultz talked about employment opportunities at her Veterans Jobs Fair at the Fort Lauderdale armory.

The Veterans Crisis Hotline is a great resource for veterans who need a helping hand to get through a difficult time in their lives. Veterans and their loved ones can call the toll-free 24-hour hotline at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online for help at veteranscrisisline.net, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The fight to end homelessness for veterans and their families is not an easy one, and we won't succeed overnight. However, with new programs like these, I am confident that it is a fight we will win.

Constituent Services for Veterans

On my website, you will find a comprehensive list of helpful links - <http://wassermanschultz.house.gov/resources/veterans.shtml> - from how to contact the Department of Veterans Affairs, resources for securing a home loan, ordering a copy of your military records, and so much more. And whatever you may need help with, please know that my office is available to help. You can reach us in Pembroke Pines at 954-437-3936, in Aventura at 305-936-5724 and in Washington, DC at 202-225-7931.

