

## H.R. 244: HIRE Vets Act

## Background:

A major problem for returning veterans, especially those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, is finding civilian employment. In fact, the unemployment rate among post 9/11 veterans is higher than the national average.

H.R. 244, as amended, would require the Department of Labor to establish a HIRE Vets Medallion Program to recognize companies for their efforts to employ veterans. Under the program, the Department of Labor would annually give HIRE Vets Medallion Awards to private and public sector businesses that recruit, employ and retain veterans and businesses that provide supportive services to the veteran community.

## The Message

- We must continuously strive to repay the debt we owe our nation's veterans.
- The men and women who have served our nation should not have to struggle to find a job upon returning home.
- This legislation is a constructive way for the federal government to encourage companies to make supporting veterans and giving back to the veteran community a priority.
- This program would recognize companies that have made significant efforts to hire and retain veterans.