

- Anthony Pileggi
- Ct resident and small business owner
- I am principal of Anthony Pileggi and Associates, Architects and Planners, North Haven, CT
- I am a US Army Vietnam veteran drafted in 1965
- After a one year tour of duty in Vietnam I returned to the US and was discharged from active duty approximately 6 months later
- I received an Honorable Discharge in 1971 after completing a 6 year military obligation and put it in a drawer
- The lucky Vietnam veterans returned home to continue their lives.....many returning veterans were not able to continue with a normal life
- The unpopularity of the Vietnam war carried over to returning veterans so many of us kept our Vietnam service to ourselves
- It was only after a long overdue ticker tape parade in lower Manhattan was organized to thank Vietnam veterans, that Vietnam veterans felt liberated
- Now we think it's time for the state of CT to acknowledge the veterans who served their country and allow both service disabled and non-service disabled veterans alike to have equal opportunities under the law

- The Bill #347 before the committee today proposes equal opportunity for all veterans
- Veteran Owned Small Business like mine are seeking equality with Service Disabled Veterans, minority business enterprises, nonprofit organizations and individual with disabilities.
- We ask this Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs to support the bill before you and move towards the desired conclusion sought by veterans.....to make the bill law.

I thank you for your time, your consideration and your service to the state of Connecticut.