



State of Connecticut

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL**

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
FIFTY-SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 4200

HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700

HOME: (860) 292-0041

EMAIL: Christopher.Davis@housegop.ct.gov

**PROUDLY SERVING
EAST WINDSOR AND ELLINGTON**

MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY

RE: Support of Proposed Senate Bill No. 198, "An Act Concerning Desecration of War or Veterans' Memorials"

Good Afternoon Chairmen Leone, Chairmen Hennessy, Ranking Member Welch, Ranking Member Adinolfi, and the honorable members of the Select Committee on Veterans Affairs,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of S.B. 198 "An Act Concerning Desecration of War or Veterans' Memorials." It is truly sad that we must address legislation of this sort in response to the recent acts of vandalism, destruction, and theft at memorials around the state.

It is imperative that we protect these monuments erected to honor the men and women who have fought, sacrificed, and died so that we can all enjoy the freedoms and liberties that we often take for granted. These monuments, and veterans they memorialize, deserve a higher level protection from the law than they currently are afforded. Additionally, those who commit acts of desecration against veteran and war memorials need to be held fully accountable for their actions. These acts are not only disrespectful to the memory of those who have served, but are also hurtful to the veterans and their families who live on as our neighbors and friends.

For these reasons, I full heartedly support S.B. 198 and hope the Committee continues to support this effort by favorably voting it forward.

Sincerely,

Christopher Davis,
State Representative
57th District