



State of Connecticut

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Testimony

**Sen. Frantz in support of SB 384
Veterans' Affairs Committee Public Hearing
February 19, 2013**

Good morning Senator Leone, Representative Hennessy, Senator Welch, Representative Yaccarino and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning in favor of **Senate Bill 384, An Act Creating a Set-Aside Program for Disabled Veteran Contractors.**

I introduced this bill after speaking with a constituent who brought the idea to my attention. During previous legislative sessions, this proposal has gained significant and bipartisan support by members of this committee and I am hoping this year we can get this passed into law.

SB 384 would establish a program requiring state and quasi-public agencies that contract for more than \$10,000 in goods and services each fiscal year to set aside at least three percent of all such contracts for competitive bidding exclusively by qualified disabled veteran contractors.

Throughout our state, veterans live, work and raise families after sacrificing their time and livelihood on the behalf of our country. After returning home from the battlefield, veterans readjust to civilian life and deserve to have an opportunity to operate successful business ventures. In my judgment, we have a responsibility to recognize this sacrifice and give back to those disabled veterans who return home and seek to apply their skills to the business world.

I encourage you to recognize the efforts of our disabled veterans and move this bill forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today, and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

L. Scott Frantz
State Senator – 36th District