

James Bhandary-Alexander
New Haven Legal Assistance Association
426 State St.
New Haven, CT 06510
jbhandary-alexander@nhlegal.org
(203)-946-4811

February 24, 2014

The Honorable Carlo Leone
The Honorable Jack Hennessy
Co-Chairs
Veterans' Affairs Committee
Room 509A, Capitol
Hartford, CT 06106

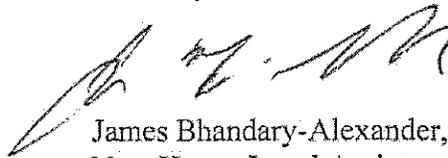
Dear Senator Leone and Representative Hennessy:

On behalf of my organization, the New Haven Legal Assistance Association, I write to express my support of SB-0212, An Act Concerning Implementation of the Recommendations of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force.

Our organization stands behind our veterans, our military spouses, and Connecticut. We believe this bill is an important and vital measure toward reducing veterans' and military spouses' chronic underemployment in Connecticut. Currently, veterans and spouses bring stellar technical training and education with them to our state, but the state's licensing regimes frequently fail to award them appropriate credit for that training. By mandating appropriate crediting of military experiences, this bill will help to harness veterans' and spouses' experience to strengthen Connecticut's economy. We also support the bill as a measure that demonstrates our state's commitment to those who have already dedicated themselves to public service.

We are grateful to the Veterans' Affairs Committee for proposing the bill and raising awareness of the particular barriers to employment and education that continue to face veterans and military spouses. On behalf of New Haven Legal Assistance, we urge the committee and legislature to vote in favor of SB-0212.

Sincerely,



James Bhandary-Alexander, Staff Attorney
New Haven Legal Assistance Association