

February 23, 2014

CDR (Ret.) Michael A. Thomas  
232 Captain Thomas Blvd.  
West Haven, CT 06516  
archangelventures@mac.com

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:

My name is Michael Thomas. I am a veteran and a small business owner. For the past six years, I have sought to employ veterans, to aide veterans in finding jobs, and to integrate support for veterans into the core of my business model. I have seen firsthand how difficult the transition from war to the workforce can be, and I know how important it is for businesses in Connecticut to support the state's veterans when they come home.

I write to you today to express my support of S.B. 212, An Act Concerning Implementation of the Recommendations of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force. My organization stands behind our veterans, our military spouses, and the state of Connecticut. I believe this bill is an important and vital measure toward reducing veterans' and military spouses' chronic underemployment. Veterans and their families bring stellar technical training and education with them to our state, and this bill will help to harness their experience to strengthen Connecticut's economy. I also support S.B. 212 as a measure that demonstrates our state's commitment to those who have already committed themselves to public service.

I 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 in Connecticut. I urge the Committee and the General Assembly to vote in favor of S.B. 212.

Sincerely,

//signed//  
Michael A. Thomas

2013 Recipient  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year