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February 12, 2019

The Hon. Rep. Edwin Vargas
The Hon. Sen. Bob Duff
Co-Chairmen
Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 1000
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Nomination of Thomas J. Saadi

Dear Rep. Vargas & Senator Duff:

In 2018, I submitted written testimony in favor of Thomas J. Saadis' nomination to be Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs. I am pleased to once again write in support of the confirmation of Thomas J. Saadi's nomination, this time to continue his service as Connecticut's Commissioner of Veterans Affairs.

As I stated in my 2018 testimony, I have known Tom as both a friend, fellow student and colleague for almost thirty years. We met and attended college together at Western Connecticut State University and later attended and graduated law school together at Quinnipiac University School of Law. Throughout the time I've known Tom he has been dedicated to serving his community. That was true in college where we served in student government together, through law school, and into his professional career, which includes service as an Assistant Attorney General, member of the United States Army Reserve and volunteer service of almost twenty years on the Danbury City Council.

Separate and apart from our social and personal friendship, I have also had the opportunity as a practicing attorney, to work with Tom on legal matters when he was serving as an Assistant Attorney General prosecuting violators of the Home Improvement Act. Throughout those interactions, Tom engaged all counsel and the court with the height of ethics, courtesy and, most importantly, skill.

In watching from the outside as a member of the community, Tom's service as Commissioner of Veterans Affairs for the last year has been exemplary. We have seen first hand Tom's strong advocacy for veterans both within the Danbury community and

statewide. Tom's dedication to service, his community and to Connecticut's veterans is inspiring. I cannot think of anyone better to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs, I strongly support the confirmation of Thomas J. Saadi, as Commissioner of Veterans Affairs.

Sincerely,



Joseph DaSilva, Jr.