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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

COMMITTEES:
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Human Services Chairman,
Subcommittee on Mental Health
Intellectual Disabilities Caucus Chairman
Labor and Industry
Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

COUNCIL:
Delaware Valley Veterans Home

March 21, 2012

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Veteran Job Tax Credit Legislation
To: All House Members
From: Representative Thomas Murt

According to a 2011 report by the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, Pennsylvania's post-9/11 veteran unemployment rate is thirteen percent. This is unacceptable and in the near future I will be introducing a bill to help ensure our returning veterans have jobs to come home to.

Recently, the federal government passed "The Vow to Hire Heroes Act of 2011." This act contains the "Returning Heroes Tax Credit" that provides incentives to businesses to hire unemployed veterans. My legislation will simply supplement this federal program by providing an additional \$2,000 tax credit from the commonwealth for businesses qualified under the federal act.

Under the federal program, a business that hires a veteran who has been unemployed for at least four weeks will receive a credit of up to forty percent of the first \$6,000 of wages up to \$2,400. A business that hires a veteran who has been unemployed for longer than six months will receive a credit of up to forty percent of the first \$14,000 of wages up to \$5,600.

It is unfair to send away men and women to protect the American way of life, only to return to find their own life has been put on hold as they transition to the civilian world. I feel it is necessary to take care of those who have chosen to protect our liberties by doing all that we can to ensure they have a job when they come home.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation please e-mail my secretary, Amy Bossart, at ABossart@pahousegop.com.