



March 21, 2017

The Honorable Roy Blunt
United States Senate
260 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

On behalf of the Association of the United States Navy, we would like to pledge our support for S. 438, the Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2017 or the HIRE Vets Act.

This bill directs the Department of Labor to establish HIRE Vets Medallion Program to solicit voluntary information from employers for purposes of recognizing through a HIRE Vets Medallion Award verified efforts by these employers to recruit, employ, and retain veterans, and provide community and charitable services supporting the veteran community. The Department of Labor shall annually solicit, verify, and review award applications from employers, notify award recipients, and issue awards at a time coinciding with Veterans Day.

The Department of Labor shall establish two levels of awards for employers of 500 or more employees, to be designated the Gold HIRE Vets Medallion Award and the Platinum HIRE Vets Medallion Award. Criteria for such awards include the percentage of hired employees who are veterans, the percentage of veteran employees who are retained, the establishment of related veterans' assistance and training programs, the employment of dedicated human resources professionals for veterans, and income and tuition support for veterans.

Thank you for taking an active role in such an important issue to the Military and Veteran community by working to improve the lives and careers of those who served our great nation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 703-548-5800 or at michael.little@ausn.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Joseph Little". To the right of the signature, there is a typed name "Michael J. Little" and the acronym "USNR" below it.

Michael J. Little
Director of Legislative Affairs