

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3003**  
April 17, 2015

Honorable Mac Thornberry  
Chairman, House Committee on Armed Services  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thornberry,

I write today to request that you include language in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2016 that would establish a subcommittee on Job Training and Transition Assistance at the Department of Defense (DoD) and Veterans' Affairs (VA) Joint Executive Committee (JEC). The JEC currently performs many tasks, primarily involving health concerns, but they do not work together on veterans' unemployment issues. This is a real problem that needs improved coordination.

The Commission on Military Compensation and Retirement stated that we need to "strengthen and add additional authorities and responsibilities to the current DoD-VA Joint Executive Committee." Unemployment among returning veterans is a serious issue and both the DoD and VA need to work together to help better coordinate on this issue. The unemployment rate among veterans that have served since 9/11 is currently 10%, which is far too high. This common sense proposal is necessary to help put many of these veterans back to work.

Below you can find the draft proposal language:

*"Executive Council on Job Training and Post Service Placement.-There is in the Committee an Executive Council on Job Training and Post-Service Placement. The Executive Council shall be responsible for improving the job training and post-service placement programs of the Department and each of the military departments."*

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for your strong leadership on this committee.

Sincerely,



Tom MacArthur  
Member of Congress