

# VETERANS UPDATE

Dear Neighbor,

As a veteran, I take special care that all my fellow service members, from the greatest generation who served in World War II to the current brave servicemen and women in the Middle East, are both honored and helped. I'm moved and full of pride when joining in ceremonies of remembrance such as those on Veterans' Day. But I also work to ensure that our soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, coast guard - all who have served - are supported. This special newsletter provides contact information for veterans who need and want help, and reports on some new laws for veterans.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you need assistance or information, or wish to share a concern on state issues.

Best regards,



Joe



*Joe with fellow veterans at the annual  
Help-A-Hero event at the Capitol.*

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | MAJORITY LEADER

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# JOE ARESIMOWICZ

## SUPPORTING OUR STATE VETERANS

### TAX EXEMPTION FOR MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY

This year, we cut taxes for veterans for tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2015 by giving a 100% state income tax exemption for military retirement pay. The exemption applies to federal retirement pay for all members of the U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Connecticut Army and Air National Guard. *(PA 15-244)*

### INCREASING SERVICES TO VETERANS ON CAMPUS

Operation Academic Support for Incoming Service Members (OASIS) helps over 6,000 student veterans at our state colleges and universities. At on-campus OASIS centers, veterans can meet with each other and get information on all veterans' benefits. We are expanding and upgrading these centers so every campus will have high quality services available. *(PA 15-1)*

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*Peter Galgano, Congressman John Larson and Joe at the new Connecticut State Veterans Memorial.*

### WOMEN VETERANS' PROGRAM

The Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs will now conduct outreach to female veterans concerning benefits and services, and offer recommendations on what type of initiatives would best serve and honor these brave women. *(PA 15-8)*

## SERVICES FOR VETERANS

**CT Department of Veterans' Affairs**

860-616-3683

[www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva)

**1st Congressional District VA Office**

860-594-6604

**CT Veterans' Health Care Center**

860-616-3705

**CT Veterans' Workforce Development**

860-263-6514

**CT Military Support Program**

866-251-2913

**Veterans' Benefits Infoline**

866-928-8387

**US Veterans' Affairs**

800-827-1000

**Veterans' Crisis Line**

800-273-8255

**Army Reserve Family Programs**

[www.arfp.org](http://www.arfp.org)

**VA Forms Online**

[www.va.gov/vaforms](http://www.va.gov/vaforms)