

Proudly Supporting Our Veterans

This session we are working on legislation that will assist the men and women who are veterans and members of the Armed Forces. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information about any current veteran program or new proposal this session.

Best regards,

Frank N. Nicastro Sr.



State Representative

Frank N. Nicastro Sr.

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Rep. Frank N. Nicastro Sr., with other officials (and Rep. Boukus' grandchildren) with items donated to the Connecticut Veterans Home in Rocky Hill

Protecting Parental Rights While Deployed

I am one of the co-sponsors of this legislation and if enacted, members of our Armed Forces who serve overseas would be protected from having their children's custody taken away from them while they are in temporary custody of their estranged spouses.



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Desecrating Veteran Memorials

Honoring the present and past sacrifices of our veterans is one of my highest priorities. It is shocking to see an increase in thefts and vandalism of veteran memorials. I am working to increase penalties for desecrating veterans' memorials beyond the monetary value of what was vandalized.

Job Training For Vets

Building on our recent jobs bill, I support an additional \$10 million to fund the "STEP-Up for Veterans" program. STEP-Up seeks to connect young veterans with meaningful employment upon their return. Any Connecticut-based business that hires an unemployed combat veteran who served in Iraq or Afghanistan would be eligible to receive a grant of up to six months of that veteran's salary and training costs, up to \$12,000.

Veteran Status On Licenses

Your Connecticut driver's license or state identity card can now display veteran status. Having a

standard ID with a veterans' designation will provide easier proof of eligibility for benefit programs and access to store discounts. To obtain this distinction, you will need to bring records of your service at the time of license renewal.

Veteran License Plates

Active members of the armed forces and National Guard can now obtain "veteran" designated license plates. Previously, only retired members were issued these plates. More information on veteran plates is available from the Department of Motor Vehicles online at www.ct.gov/dmv, or by calling 860-263-5700.

CT Veterans Charity Network

Fraudulent charity groups often misrepresent veterans, trying to take advantage of our good will toward those who serve our country. One way to help stop donations to these fraudulent groups is to create a legitimate charities list on the Department of Veteran's Affairs website at www.ct.gov/ctva, and I'm supporting legislation to get that done.