



Dear Stefan,

To those who have fought or who are fighting to defend this nation and the freedoms we enjoy every day: **THANK YOU!** Members of the US Armed Forces return home veterans. **For their service, we are indebted.**

We must remember that it's the warrior, not the preacher that gives us freedom of religion. It's the warrior, not the reporter that gives us freedom of speech. It's the warrior, not the judge that gives us the right to trial. It's the warrior, not the politician that gives us the right to vote. And, it's the warrior, not the professor that gives us liberty.



I am committed to supporting legislation and policies that provide opportunities for our veteran's transition at home. Our veteran unemployment rate exceeds the national unemployment average. This is unacceptable. That's why I voted last

week in support of H.R. 2433, the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act of 2011. This bill would create programs to provide employment and training services to both veterans and current service members separating from active duty. Among other benefits, this bill would provide up to one year of Veterans Retraining Assistance to as many as 100,000 unemployed veterans that enter education or training programs for certain sectors at community colleges or technical schools. Please [click here](#) for more information on this bill.

This year, Congress also passed three other bipartisan bills that provided important programs and benefits for veterans, including a 3.6% Cost-of-Living increase, allowing school choice under the GI program; and funding for VA hospital construction projects. All 3 bills (the Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011, and the Veterans Health Care Facilities Capital Improvement Act of 2011) were signed into law this year.

In addition, I am currently working on legislation to name a postal facility in Crosby, Texas after our hometown hero, First Sergeant David McNerney (pictured right). You can read more about Sergeant McNerney, a Medal of Honor recipient, [here](#).



While Veteran's Day is only one day on the calendar, we are grateful for our veterans' service the other 364 days of the year as well. Thanks to their service, we are able to live the lives that we do today.

And that's just the way it is.

God and Texas,

Ted Poe
Member of Congress
TEXAS

FORWARD TO A FRIEND

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