

Governor's Weekly Message Transcript: Honoring Our Veterans for their Service, Sacrifice

Each year, Veterans Day weekend brings our communities together. Whether at memorials, parades or events with the V-F-W and American Legion groups, we cherish this chance to show support for men and women who have put service above self throughout our history. We reflect on the freedoms and opportunities we enjoy as a result of their sacrifice. As John F. Kennedy said, "as we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." We must continuously renew our commitment to our Veterans, and I'm proud our state has recently taken steps to strengthen services for our returning heroes. In September, we declared Hire a Vet month, with a focus on reducing the disproportionately high rate of veterans' unemployment. Earlier this year we launched our Veterans Services Directory, an online searchable database of organizations assisting Delaware's military, veterans and their families. You can access these resources at <https://delaware.gov/vsd>. We're supporting Veteran entrepreneurs through our Supplier Diversity Council, which ensures Veteran, as well as minority and women owned businesses, are afforded full, equitable opportunities to compete for State contracts. To participate in these efforts, companies need certification, so this month, on November 21, we'll host an event to assist them in that process. For more information, Veteran businessmen and women can contact Michelle Morin at 857-4554. By ensuring Veterans receive the benefits they earned and the opportunities to employ their

skills when they come home, we keep Delaware, and our great country, moving forward.