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OFFICE OF THE  
NATIONAL COMMANDER

December 1, 2011

Honorable John Garamendi  
United States House of Representatives  
228 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Garamendi:

On behalf of the 2.4 million members of The American Legion, I express our support for your draft legislation to amend Title 38, United States Code, to clarify the responsibilities of small businesses with respect to the employment and re-employment rights of veterans. This bill, if enacted, would redefine "undue hardship" to protect only small businesses which may experience difficulties in re-employing a returning veteran to the workforce. A small business would be defined in accordance with the Small Business Administration's definition.

The American Legion is very concerned about reducing the ongoing high unemployment among veterans of all of our nation's conflicts. This legislation will provide that medium and large companies will now have to re-employ returning veterans to their jobs or its equivalent and to accommodate service-connected disabled veterans.

We truly appreciate your efforts to provide returning veterans greater support toward being reinstated into their pre-service jobs following the completion of their military commitments. Thank you for your continued support for American's veterans, service members and their families.

Sincerely,

FANG A. WONG  
National Commander