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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–6250

May 22, 2012

Paul Rieckhoff
Executive Director and Founder
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
777 North Capitol St NE Suite 403
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Rieckhoff:

We are writing to invite you or your designee to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Veterans Employment and Government Contractors." The hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine veterans hiring by government contractors. Under federal law, contractors and subcontractors are required to take affirmative steps to promote opportunities for qualified veterans and report the number of veterans hired and employed each year to the Department of Labor.[1] The hearing will review contractors' compliance with these requirements and the recruiting and retention practices used by contractors with successful veterans hiring efforts. The hearing will also provide an opportunity to examine whether veterans hiring by government contractors can be improved.

Your testimony should address the experiences of recently-separated veterans in seeking and retaining employment from businesses who receive contracts with the federal government. You should also discuss ways in which contractors can improve their outreach and communication to veterans. In addition, we would welcome your suggestions for improving the federal government's efforts to facilitate the hiring of veterans by contractors.

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. **Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by no later than 10:30 A.M. on Friday, June 1, 2012.** Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108th Congress); and Senate Resolution 73 (111th Congress).

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[1] 38 U.S.C. 4212.

We look forward to your participation. Please contact Sarah Garcia with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-1014 or Senator Portman's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-3353 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

Rob Portman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight