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November 25, 2013

Senator Carl Levin
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Committee
United States Senate
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator James Inhofe
Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Committee
United States Senate
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Levin and Ranking Member Inhofe,

We are writing on behalf of the Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC) to express our strong support for three amendments introduced to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) by Senators Mark Warner and Saxby Chambliss to facilitate the hiring and training of recently discharged veterans by businesses who contract with the federal government.

Specifically, we strongly support: i) Amendment 2104 to expand the charter of the Council of Veterans Employment to include government contractors in the Council's efforts and processes, ii) Amendment 2106 to amend the Federal Acquisition Regulation to encourage agencies to modify or waive skills required for the performance of an awarded contract if it is to be performed by an unemployed veteran who is being trained by the contractor to meet the qualification requirement, and iii) Amendment 2414 to provide veterans with the opportunity to voluntarily release their job skills information to state employment commissions up to 90 days before their date of discharge from the Armed Services. We believe these three amendments will remove significant barriers to the employment of veterans, especially post-September 11 veterans, by government contractors across the country.

As the voice of the technology community in Northern Virginia and the largest technology council in the nation, NVTC aims to promote veteran employment among its member companies and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. In August, NVTC created a Veterans Employment Initiative to connect recently discharged veterans to employment opportunities with Virginia's technology companies. Through this program, NVTC provides tools and resources to match veterans with jobs, internships, mentorships and certifications, while also providing support to companies in their efforts to hire, train and retain qualified veteran employees. More than 175 NVTC member companies already are participating in this program.

In the process of developing the Veterans Employment Initiative, NVTC, working with the Professional Services Council, uncovered several impediments associated with federal government contractors hiring a recently discharged or unemployed veteran that



2214 Rock Hill Road Suite 300 Herndon, Virginia 20170 (703) 904 7878 fax: (703) 904 8008

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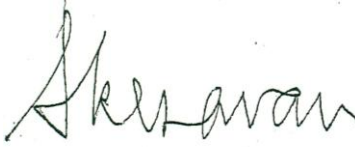
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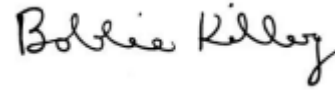
are of national concern and warrant changes in federal policy. We have described those impediments in greater detail in the attached document entitled "National Policy Framework to Facilitate the Employment and Retention of Veterans." We urge your support of these three amendments which will address the impediments we identified and facilitate the hiring and training of veterans by businesses who contract with the federal government.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sudhakar Kesavan
NVTC Board Chair



Bobbie Kilberg
President and CEO

