

The Veterans Jobs Corps Act of 2012

The Problem: Veterans Face Unique Barriers to Finding Employment

Veterans are disciplined, skilled, team players, yet face greater difficulty finding employment than their civilian counterparts.

- As of May 2012, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that there were more than 260,000 unemployed post-9/11 veterans. With the winding down of our nation's military commitments abroad, we can expect newly-separated veterans to enter into the workforce at increased rates.
- Helping veterans find employment is critical to supporting their families, fostering their self-esteem, and combating veterans' homelessness.

The Response: The Veterans Jobs Corps

The Veterans Jobs Corps is a \$1 billion investment in our veterans and their capacity to strengthen America. Over the next five years, the Veterans Jobs Corp will:

- Increase training and hiring opportunities for all veterans.
- Restore and protect our national, state, and tribal forests, parks, coastal areas, wildlife refuges, and cemeteries as well as maintain the infrastructure and facilities that these public lands need.
- Fulfill first responder hiring and re-hiring needs at a time when 85 percent of law enforcement agencies were forced to reduce their budget in the past year, according to a 2011 survey by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The Veterans Jobs Corp builds upon an array of bipartisan proposals put forth in other legislation:

S. 3457 will create programs that:

- Provide veterans with access to the internet and computers to conduct job searches at one-stop centers and certain other locations. (S. 3316)
- Require minimum funding levels to ensure that each State is able to support at least one disabled veterans' outreach program specialist and one local veterans' employment representative per 5,000 square miles of service delivery area within the State. (S. 1314)
- Offer transition assistance to eligible veterans and their spouses outside of military installations and will assess the effectiveness of providing transition assistance at alternate locations. (S. 2246)
- Require consideration of a veteran's training or experience gained while serving on active duty when approving or denying certain certifications or licenses for that veteran. (S. 3235)