

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2009

Colonel Keith A. Landry  
Louisville District Commander  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Romano Mazzoli Federal Building  
600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Place  
Louisville, KY 40202

As you move forward with the construction of the new Armed Forces Reserve Center (ARFC) in Middletown, Connecticut, we respectfully urge you to strongly consider the importance of hiring from the local workforce, including veterans, as well as the importance of using a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for this critical project.

As you know, the awarding of this contract marked an important step in our efforts to build a new state-of-the-art home in Middletown for approximately 1,000 Connecticut Reservists, as well as an opportunity to promote the City of Middletown's local economy. This year, 14,200 jobs in the construction sector have been lost across the state. Using the local workforce would help provide an economic boost to the region that is embracing this new facility.

It is of paramount importance that a government contract of this nature leads to an efficient and timely completion of the project at the least expense to the taxpayer. We strongly believe that utilizing highly skilled and capable workers within the Middletown area would best satisfy these requirements. Moreover, to help make sure that this project both brings the maximum benefit to the community and is completed as scheduled by September 2011, and in the spirit of President Obama's Executive Order on the use of PLAs for federal construction projects, we ask that you consider using a PLA for this contract. Lastly, we also encourage you to make every effort to put veterans to work building the new facility.

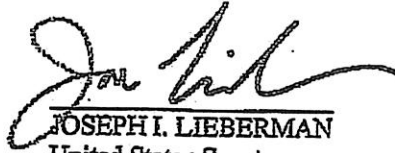
The process of choosing the site for the AFRC and the awarding of the contract demonstrate that the best results come when the community is directly involved, and we were pleased to see Connecticut businesses awarded this major contract. We believe that community involvement should continue as we now move to construct this new facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



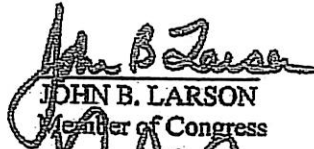
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD  
United States Senator



JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN  
United States Senator



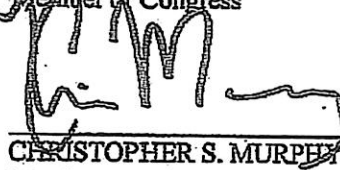
ROSA L. DeLAURO  
Member of Congress



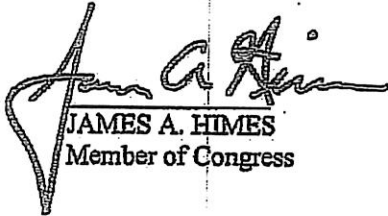
JOHN B. LARSON  
Member of Congress



JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY  
Member of Congress



JAMES A. HIMES  
Member of Congress