Veterans Legislative Coalition (VLC)
17201 Lakepoint Dr. SE
Yelm, WA 98597

Dear Majority Leader Senator Andy Billig

The Washington Veterans Legislative Coalition (VLC) is unanimous in its support Initiative I-1000, essential to ensure affirmative action support for all honorably discharged veterans.

The VLC includes membership of nineteen Veterans Service Organizations (American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Association of the Army, Marine Corps League, Paralyzed Veterans, and others).

There are over 631,491 voting vets in Washington in 3 categories: Military vets, active duty personnel, and military reservists and national guardsmen (all of these are considered veterans). This is approximately 9.7% ratio of veterans to the total Washington state population of slightly over 6.5 million people. We are picking up between 300 to 400 veterans a month settling in the state, that's roughly 4200 vets a year being added to the population annually.

The VLC urges that hearings on I-1000 are conducted as soon as possible during the current legislative session. As noted, the VLC is unanimous in its support of this important Initiative, and our members stand ready to provide any support or information you may deem desirable.

Yours truly,

Jerry M. Fugich, US Navy Retired
Chairman, Veteran Legislative Coalition (VLC)
360-561-2953
watchmkr@ywave.com
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Dear House Speaker Frank Chopp

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**Purpose:** Forum to address veteran concerns. Bring together representatives from the Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) to work together to present various causes, positions and issues of veterans and their family members to the Washington State Legislature.

**Mission:** Maintain knowledge of bills, Sponsor bills attend legislative hearings, support Veteran Legislative Coalition goals, inform Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) and request support.

**Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) members of the Veterans Legislative Coalition**

- African American PTSD Assn
- Air Force Association
- American Legion
- Armed Forces E-9 Association, WA Chapter 1
- Association United States Army
- Disabled American Veterans
- Fleet Reserve Association
- Marine Corps League
- Military Officers Association of America
- Military Order Purple Heart
- Military Order of the World Wars
- National Association Black Veterans
- National Guard Association
- Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Special Forces
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Vietnam Veterans of America