

For Immediate Release
June 14, 2011

Gov. Shumlin announces start-up of newly created Tax Credit for Veterans

MONTPELIER – Gov. Peter Shumlin announced today that the process for obtaining a tax credit for hiring veterans with recent military experience is now operational. The Governor had proposed the \$2,000 tax credit in February when he heard that nearly one-third of returning veterans didn't have employment, and the measure was approved by the Legislature.

"Getting our veterans back to work is our top priority here," said Gov. Shumlin. "It's been six months since the men and women who served with the Vermont National Guard in Afghanistan came home, and the need to ensure they find good-paying work is vital."

The tax credit process is administered jointly between the Vermont Departments of Labor and Taxes, as well as the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs. All veterans who wish to use the program are instructed to start the application process with the Office of Veterans Affairs, and the application is available online at <http://veterans.vermont.gov/transitions/taxcredit>.

Gov. Shumlin and legislative leaders decided to move on this effort after learning that so many of Vermont's veterans were joining the ranks of the long-term unemployed who want to work but cannot find jobs. During the legislative process, provisions were added that would also provide up to a \$2,000 tax credit to veterans who start their own businesses.

"These men and women have in many cases risked their lives for our state and our nation," Gov. Shumlin said. "Now they are coming home to a job market still reeling from the national recession. We owe them our very best effort to move quickly to find them good jobs and encourage employers to seek out qualified workers who have been serving our country."

Questions about the program can be directed to Clayton Clark, Veteran Services Director at the Office of Veterans Affairs, at (802) 828-3379.

#####