

Commissioner Brad Avakian Bureau of Labor & Industries

Press Release

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Veterans Day Statement from Oregon's Labor Commissioner

PORTLAND - Oregon Labor and Industries Commissioner Brad Avakian, chief of the state's Bureau of Labor and Industries, issued this statement today expressing his agency's appreciation of its important role in service to Oregon's veterans and service members and their families:

"As we pause today to reflect on the dedicated service of so many Americans and their families to ensure the continued well-being of our great country, BOLI is honored to play an important role in strengthening the economy and workforce that our veterans have fought to protect. We realize how fundamentally necessary it is for returning veterans to have jobs and fair workplaces to return to, and we do all we can to make that a reality for them and their families.

"BOLI is the agency that proudly enforces Oregon's laws promoting employment for veterans through <u>veterans</u>' <u>preference and required interviews</u>, <u>protecting service members from discrimination</u> for their uniformed service, and providing opportunities for veterans and returning service members to use their <u>GI Bill benefits for registered apprenticeship and on-the-job training</u> programs. We appreciate the opportunity to foster economic opportunity for Oregon's veterans and protect <u>leave time for active service members and their families</u>, and to work collaboratively with our partners at the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs.

"As we celebrate the important contributions that generations of service members have made to our state and country, I know I speak for all BOLI staff in saying: Veterans, thank you for your service, and thank you for the opportunity that we have to serve you in turn."

Visit www.oregon.gov/BOLI for more information about all of BOLI's work to protect workers' rights and support local employers in Oregon.

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The mission of the Bureau of Labor and Industries is to protect employment rights, advance employment opportunities, and protect access to housing and public accommodations free from discrimination.