

STATE OF NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO GOVERNOR

December 2, 2015

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for this Veterans' Summit hosted by New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID).

New Yorkers with disabilities have increasingly important roles in our workforce, as we all benefit from their skills, knowledge, and expertise. NYSID is a resource that connects people with disabilities – including many veterans – with the right job in the right environment, allowing them to find greater independence and fulfillment, both professionally and personally.

New Yorkers are proud that nearly 863,000 veterans currently call the Empire State their home and honored that these former service members contribute to the veteran community, the military community, and our greater society as productive members of the workforce. New York State offers veterans, service members, and their families an array of benefits and services including educational opportunities, and public and private sector employment opportunities that are but small repayment of the debt of gratitude we owe these men and women.

Our veterans deserve respect and support. We also recognize in these challenging times, that many military personnel come home and need help rebuilding and restoring their lives. This summit brings together various components of the statewide network of agencies, business leaders, higher learning institutions, service and rehabilitation organizations, not-for-profits, and government entities that help promote a good quality of life – and a sound future for veterans.

I join in applauding the fine example of partnership and cooperation shown by everyone associated NYSID, which continues to bring many capable and talented veterans into our state's workforce. Warmest regards and best wishes for a successful meeting.

Sincerely

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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