

Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey

State of Tennessee

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 29, 2010

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Lt. Governor Ramsey receives Patriotic Employer Award from Guard and Reserve organization

(Nashville) – **Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey (R-Blountville)** today received the Patriotic Employer Award from Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). ESGR is a Department of Defense (DoD) organization established to promote cooperation and understanding between Guard and Reserve component members and their civilian employers. ESGR’s state committee chooses award winners.

“I am truly honored to receive this award,” said Lt. Governor Ramsey. “We owe our veterans a great deal and I want to say a special thanks to them and their civilian employers who are indispensable to the success of the National Guard and Reserve.”

Lt. Governor Ramsey led several veteran-friendly efforts in this year’s legislative session. He sponsored legislation which created a Veterans’ Honor Medal program because Tennessee does not have an award that honors the military service of both Active Duty and Guard and Reserve components. He also worked to pass a bill to help service-disabled small business owners.

According to Mark Cashio, a service-disabled veteran business owner and retired Air Force Lt. Colonel, “Lt. Governor Ramsey was instrumental in supporting the *Tennessee Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business Enterprise Opportunity Act*, which allows service-disabled small business owners who have at least a 20% service-connected disability and who own and control at least 51% of a business to be included with minority-owned businesses when competing for state contracts.”

“This legislation will help level the playing field when service-disabled veteran owned small businesses are competing for state contracts,” Cashio said. “Lt. Governor Ramsey’s support for this legislation demonstrates his concern and willingness to assist service-disabled veteran-owned businesses in Tennessee.”

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On the web:

<http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/senate/members/s2.htm>

<http://esgr.org/site/>

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