



Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Veterans for Loughlin Launched *Loughlin Pledges to be Advocate for Veterans, Military*

Flanked by veterans from across Rhode Island's first congressional district, John Loughlin, candidate for Congress in RI-1 today announced that formation of "Veterans for Loughlin," a coalition comprised of U.S. military veterans from all branches of the armed services.

"As the only candidate in this race with military experience and a real understanding of the issues that face our veterans, reservists and active duty military, if elected, I look forward to representing their interests in Washington," said Loughlin.

"It was an honor for me to put on our country's uniform and serve with brave men and women who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to protect our way of life and spread democracy and freedom across the world. It would be also be my honor to serve these men and women in Congress."

"At a time when our armed forces are spread thin and we continue to battle terrorism at home and abroad, it is more important than ever to send someone to Washington who understands the threats, our capabilities and has already sworn to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic."

"Loughlin also criticized his opponent, Mayor David Cicilline, for his naïve view in favor of withdrawing troops from Afghanistan before the successful completion of the mission there.

"We all want the troops to come home. The difference is I want them to come home in victory. Mayor Cicilline's defeatist attitude would embolden terrorists around the world and make Americans less safe at home," Loughlin said.

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VETERANS FOR LOUGHLIN

Veterans for Loughlin is a coalition of men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and support John Loughlin's campaign for Congress in Rhode Island's 1st congressional district. Veterans for Loughlin support John's philosophy of a strong national defense, continued support for critical allies and ensuring that our veterans receive the care they deserve after serving their country.

About John's service

In 1978, John enlisted in the Rhode Island National Guard, graduating from Officer Candidate School in 1982, Armored Cavalry Basic Course in 1983, US Army Aviation Center, Helicopter Flight School in 1984, Armor Officer Advance Course in 1990 and Command & General Staff College in 1996.

John spent 10 years on flight status as a helicopter pilot, flying missions in a variety of Army helicopters including the UH-1 Huey, the OH-6 Cayuse and the OH-58 Kiowa Warrior. In 1986, John went to work full-time for the Rhode Island National Guard as the Adjutant General's Public Affairs Officer.

John was twice mobilized for active duty during his 26 year military career, and saw duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1995 and 1996 and Ft. Bragg, North Carolina in 2003 training units for duty in Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In December 2004, John retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Reserve after completing more than twenty-six years of service. He remains very active with veterans groups and serves in the Rhode Island House as a member of the Veteran's Affairs Committee.

**To join Veterans for Loughlin,
visit www.johnloughlin.org and click "Join a Coalition"**