

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Steve Stern

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LEGISLATOR STEVE STERN INFORMS VETERANS OF NEW
EDUCATION BENEFITS**

“Veteran Retraining Assistance Program” provides aid to unemployed Veterans

HUNTINGTON, NY –Suffolk County Legislator Steve Stern (D-Huntington) 16th LD, Chairman of the Veterans and Seniors Committee, is advising veterans that the Veterans Administration (VA) and Department of Labor (DOL) are providing new benefits to cover education costs for up to one year through a program designed to retrain veterans for high-demand jobs.

The “Veteran Retraining Assistance Program”(VRAP) is open to unemployed veterans between 35-60 years old, not be dishonorably discharged, start education in a VA approved program of education offered by a community college or technical school leading to an associate degree, non-college degree or certificate for a high-demand occupation as defined by DOL; not be eligible for another VA education benefit program; not be enrolled in a federal or state job-training program within the last 180 days and not receive VA compensation at the 100 percent rate due to individual unemployability.

“I encourage all eligible veterans to apply as soon as possible for this valuable program, because there are a limited number of spots open,” Legislator Stern said. “Our unemployed veterans, who have sacrificed so much to protect our great nation deserve our support and assistance in a meaningful way and this program offers an important opportunity for educational benefits.”

For more information on VRAP, and how to apply, Veterans may go the website at www.benefits.va.gov or call the VA’s Call Centers toll-free at 1-800-827-1000. Veterans may also access the VRAP application online at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>