

## TAYLOR ANNOUNCES WOUNDED WARRIORS TO SERVE AT MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Gene Taylor announced today that U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point (USMMA) will be open for assignment to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps veterans recovering from combat injuries. The Academy, located on Long Island, New York, will provide an opportunity for wounded sailors and Marines to continue active duty as they recuperate from their injuries in a setting that is relatively close to their homes and families. Students at the Academy will benefit through interaction with veterans with recent combat experience.

Program to benefit veterans,  
midshipmen

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Gene Taylor announced today that U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point (USMMA) will be open for assignment to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps veterans recovering from combat injuries. The Academy, located on Long Island, New York, will provide an opportunity for wounded sailors and Marines to continue active duty as they recuperate from their injuries in a setting that is relatively close to their homes and families. Students at the Academy will benefit through interaction with veterans with recent combat experience.

Rep. Taylor, Maritime Administrator Sean T. Connaughton and Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter joined together to develop the new program. The participating veterans will be eligible for light duty assignments at Kings Point, such as classroom instruction and student mentoring, under the Navy's Safe Harbor Program and the Marine Corps' Wounded Warrior Regiment.

Rep. Taylor had the idea to ask Secretary Winter about assigning wounded sailors and Marines to duty at Kings Point after meeting with a wounded veteran who wanted to continue to serve although he was still recovering from his injuries.

"Our wounded veterans want very much to continue to contribute in a meaningful way," Rep. Taylor said. "This gives them the opportunity to do so. Being surrounded by enthusiastic young people can only speed their recovery. I commend Secretary Winter for his continued dedication to ensure our wounded sailors and Marines are given the best chance at a full recovery."

The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, is operated by the Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration. It trains men and women for service in the merchant marine, and all graduates are required to serve either in the U.S. maritime

industry or in the U.S. Armed Forces.

###