

NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA
Department of Industrial Relations
News For Immediate Release
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ALABAMA SPOTLIGHTS HIRING OF VETERANS

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, November 9, 2007 Tom Surtees, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations director, has officially announced a pair of documents regarding the hiring of veterans recently signed by Governor Bob Riley.

Surtees read a commendation by Governor Riley recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) that assists "veterans with significant barriers to employment." The commendation also states the DVOP "has become an intricate part of the community by working with other veteran service providers to secure veteran benefits, training, and employment, and saving taxpayers millions of dollars each year."

During a ceremony at the Montgomery Career Center, Surtees also read the Governor's proclamation designating November as Hire a Veteran Month. The proclamation states, "today's veterans desire the same economic opportunities as their forebears, and bring to the modern workplace the benefits of skills, education, leadership, maturity, and dedication learned in military service."

Among those on hand for the ceremony were Tom Karrh, director, Alabama U.S. Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service, Al Hinson, executive coordinator, Operation Grateful Heart, Braxton Bridgers, adjutant, American Legion, Department of Alabama, and Carolyn Walker, manager, Montgomery Employment Service.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on Industrial Relations, visit the Web site: <http://dir.alabama.gov>.