

Rep. Peter Welch on Tuesday will host a roundtable focusing on the employment needs of Vermont National Guard members returning from overseas.

The roundtable will focus on the issues Vermont's Guardsmen and women will face in finding a job upon return from their deployment. It will also cover what the federal government can do to help members of the Guard find jobs and what would encourage small businesses to hire them.

When Welch traveled to Afghanistan earlier this fall, one of the top concerns he heard from members of the Vermont Guard was finding employment when they return home.

"I heard directly from Vermont Guard members when I visited Afghanistan how concerned they are about finding a good job when they come home. It is critical that we remove any barriers to employing these brave men and women so that they have a successful transition to civilian life in their communities," said Welch.

**WHAT:** Roundtable on Guard employment issues

**WHO:** Rep. Peter Welch and representatives from the Vermont National Guard, Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR), Military Families Community Network, Veterans Administration, Vermont Department of Labor and the Vermont business and education community.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 19 - 11:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Ethan Allen Room, 2nd Floor, State House, Montpelier