

Over 1,000 Iowans Launch Veterans and Military Families for Braley

Written by Jeff Giertz

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Veterans and their family members from all 99 counties say Braley is best to fight for Iowa
DES MOINES, IA – More than 1,000 Iowa veterans and family members of veterans from all 99 Iowa counties are formally endorsing Rep. Bruce Braley's candidacy for US Senate, Braley announced today at the Iowa Capitol.

The veterans and their family members are founding members of Veterans and Military Families for Braley, a group that will help lead grassroots organizational efforts for Braley's 2014 campaign.

Braley has become known as a fighter for Iowa veterans in Washington, [passing a law](#) to give tax credits to businesses that hire unemployed veterans, taking on the Pentagon to [secure combat pay](#) for Iowa National Guard troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and [expanding a program](#) to help injured veterans secure disability-accessible housing.

Braley said, "I'm honored to have the support of so many Iowa veterans. My dad enlisted in the Marine Corps when he was 17 and landed on Iwo Jima the same day the flag was raised on Mount Suribachi. He taught me about service to country, and that's why I work hard to ensure that when our veterans return home, someone is fighting for them to help create jobs, expand educational opportunities, and ensure they get all the benefits they've earned."

Braley was joined at today's announcement by Afghanistan veteran Todd Eipperle of Marshalltown, a registered Republican and co-chair of the group, and a number of Iowa veterans.

Eipperle said, "Bruce Braley is genuinely concerned about Iowa veterans and their families. For him, it's about fighting for Iowans, not about politics. That's why I'm

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honored to stand with him today and endorse his candidacy for Senate. We need more people like him working for Iowa veterans in Washington.”

Judy Voss of Davenport, a co-chair of the group, said, “We need Bruce Braley in the Senate, keeping up the fight for Iowa veterans. Supporting our troops means standing up for them not only when they’re in harm’s way, but when they come home. Bruce clearly understands that, and it’s why so many veterans are standing behind him today.”

Some highlights of Veterans and Military Families for Braley:

- Includes more than 1,000 veterans and family members of veterans hailing from all 99 Iowa counties.
- Comprised of veterans from every American war since World War II.
- Members are registered Republicans, Democrats, and independents.

The co-chairs of Veterans and Military Families for Braley are:

- Todd Eipperle, Marshalltown. Iowa National Guard.
- Sen. Jack Kibbe, Emmetsburg. US Army.
- Bill Knapp, Van Meter. US Navy.
- Judy Voss, Davenport. US Air Force.

A full list of founding members of Veterans and Military Families for Braley can be viewed at the following link: www.brucebraley.com/veterans

Bruce Braley was born in Grinnell and grew up in nearby Brooklyn, Iowa. His father, a Marine who fought on Iwo Jima in World War II, and his mother, a teacher, taught him the value of hard work. Braley worked jobs like road construction and truck driving to help pay his way through college and law school. As an attorney in Waterloo, Braley represented Iowans who took on powerful interests and big corporations. Elected to the US House in 2006, Braley has worked to create Iowa jobs, protect farms, strengthen small businesses, and stand up for veterans. Bruce Braley is running for Senate to fight for the things that matter most to Iowans. He’ll fight for middle class families, because that’s where he comes from.

Braley lives in Waterloo with his wife, Carolyn. They have three children: Lisa, David, and Paul.

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