According to the Virginia Employment Commission, the unemployment rate for the commonwealth fell to 5.7 percent in February. Though we are seeing some growth, we still face a tough economy, with the national unemployment rate currently at 8.2 percent.

With the military also tightening budgets during these fiscally-restrained times, many military members face a future outside the service. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate for veterans in 2011 was 12.1 percent.

As Airmen and Soldiers from Joint Base Langley-Eustis may be considering their lives after service, we have an excellent team of professionals here to assist them every step of the way during the transition. From job search services to benefit classes to how to dress for success, the Army and Air Force Transition Assistance Program prepares servicemembers for careers outside of the military. TAP also works with an on-location representative of the VEC to aid these servicemembers who would like to stay in the area.

I would like to offer you all an opportunity to talk with these professionals about TAP, how the program works with Airmen and Soldiers transitioning out of military service, and why it is so beneficial for our servicemembers. If you would be interested in such an opportunity, please contact me to arrange a date and time to set up the interview.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will all take advantage of this opportunity to share this information with your consumers.