PORTLAND, OR – Today, Congressman Earl Blumenauer released the following statement in praise of Oregon's men and women in uniform:

"Oregon's veterans and retired service members are the finest example of what our state can do for this country and her people," said Blumenauer. "Their courage and sacrifice have ensured that the values we hold dear are preserved, and we cannot thank them enough.

"In Congress, I work every day to honor the commitments we have made to our veterans. From reducing the claims backlog caused by years of underfunding the VA system to fighting for the rights of Oregon Guardsmen injured by negligent contractors, we are finally turning the corner and making progress. We have increased veterans funding by nearly $23 billion, passed a Post-9/11 GI Bill, made major improvements in veterans' mental health coverage, and so much more.

"It is my hope that every Oregonian will join me in taking the opportunity this Veterans' Day to reflect on everything our service members have done for this country."