

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 17, 2011**

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**A North Carolina Business is Putting Its Money Where Its Mouth Is for U.S. Troops Called to Duty**

*U.S. Representative Brad Miller Presents Flag Flown Over the United States Capitol to North Carolina's State Employee Credit Union in honor of its dedication to activated National Guard and Reservists*

Raleigh, N.C. – **U.S. Rep. Brad Miller** will honor the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union (SECU) on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, for receiving the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. SECU is one of only 15 employers nationwide recognized for exemplary efforts on behalf of their National Guard and Reserve employees who have been activated to duty.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given to employers for exceptional support of their employees serving in the Guard and Reserve. The story of support exemplified by SECU Branch Manager Elizabeth Fair in Benson who helped with childcare when Cathy Green, a branch employee and a single mother, was deployed to Iraq for 18 months is one example of commitment to employees. Click to watch more details:

<https://www.ncsecu.org/AboutSECU/Videos.html>

“SECU has given new meaning to the words above and beyond for civilians during wartime,” **Rep. Miller** said. “They are proof that we can all serve our country if we choose to work together.”

**Rep. Miller** will present the U.S. flag to Elizabeth Fair and Cathy Green who will accept on behalf of their employer, SECU.

Through their foundation, SECU members also partnered with the North Carolina National Guard Association Educational Foundation to fund annual scholarships and help with zero percent construction financing for transitional housing to serve homeless veterans. SECU received the Freedom Award at a banquet in Washington, D.C. on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**What:** Flag Presentation to SECU in honor of the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award

**When:** Tuesday, October 18, 2011, 5 P.M. to 5:45 P.M.

**Where:** SECU, 1000 Wade Ave. (2<sup>nd</sup> floor boardroom), Raleigh

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