

*Office of Representative James E. Vallee*  
State House, Room 238

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**REP. VALLEE ANNOUNCES FORUM FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS  
OF VETERANS & ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIERS**

*(Boston)* – Rep. James E. Vallee (D- Franklin) announces that family members, friends and recently returned soldiers of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts that The Strategic Outreach to Families of All Reservists (SOFAR) will be conducting educational forums on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Sheraton Braintree Hotel, 37 Forbes Road, Braintree at 7PM. On Tuesday June 24<sup>th</sup> a forum will also be held at the Sheraton Framingham, 1657 Worcester Road, Framingham, also at 7PM.

The workshops will help service members, family and friends understand the problems soldiers experience with transition from conflict to home, learn more about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), learn about Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), learn about the impact of the soldier returning will have on family members, and provide resources to help soldiers at risk. A third forum is also to be conducted on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Sheraton Monarch Place Hotel, 1 Monarch Place, Springfield beginning at 11AM.

SOFAR is a unique program to aid the families of soldiers of Army Reserve and National Guard who are deployed or have returned from the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. SOFAR assists soldiers and their families cope with the many hidden casualties of war at no cost. Those interested in attending may contact Representative Vallee's State House Office at 617-722-2380, e-mail [Rep.JamesVallee@hou.state.ma.us](mailto:Rep.JamesVallee@hou.state.ma.us) or contact SOFAR directly at [www.help@sofarusa.org](http://www.help@sofarusa.org), 617-216-1272.

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