

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA

Item No. 4b

Date of Meeting September 11, 2012

DATE: August 30, 2012

TO: Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Mary Gin Kennedy, Director of Commission Services

SUBJECT: Special Order of Business – Acknowledgment of Representative Adam Smith’s Recognition of the Port of Seattle for Receiving the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award

Representative Adam Smith (D-WA-9th) congratulated the Port for receiving the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award and inserted his statement into the August 3, 2012, *Congressional Record*.

The Port is one of fifteen employers from across the country selected to receive the award out of over 3,000 nominations from Guardsmen, Reservists, and their family members. First instituted in 1996, the Freedom Award is the highest recognition an employer can receive from the U.S. Government for exceptional support of employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. As of 2011, it is estimated that 20 percent of the Port’s employee base are veterans or are still on active duty. The Port established a Veterans Fellowship Program to help military personnel transition from active duty to civilian employment.

OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS SPECIAL ORDER:

- Representative Smith’s statement inserted in the August 3, 2012, *Congressional Record*
- August 9, 2012, letter to Chief Executive Officer Tay Yoshitani from Representative Adam Smith