

*Recognizes General Brautigan's service as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs*

*February 16, 2011*

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) today spoke on the floor of the House of Representatives to honor Major General Roger Brautigan. General Brautigan, a 33-year Army veteran and resident of Stockton, recently retired as the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

The text of Congressman McNerney's remarks is below.

"Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly great American, Major General Roger Brautigan. He's a 33-year Army veteran who has earned the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star.

"Following his military service, Roger Brautigan joined the California Department of Veterans Affairs and was appointed its Secretary in 2009. Under his leadership, the Department implemented California's Operation Welcome Home, a groundbreaking program that matches the veterans with the services and assistance they've earned and need.

"General Brautigan, who recently retired from California Department of Veterans Affairs, envisions Operation Welcome Home expanding nationwide so that all veterans may benefit from this important and effective program.

"Throughout both his military service and civilian career, General Brautigan proved himself to be an exemplary leader. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Major General Roger Brautigan for his tireless service to our veterans, the State of California, and our great nation."