

2018 Regular Legislative Session

Veteran / Military Bills

Bill #	Title and Summary	Sponsor
HB 1056	Military/consumer protection	Kilduff
C 197 L 18 Effective date	Changes the definition of "service member" for purposes of the Washington Service Members' Civil Relief Act (WSCRA). Allows the Washington Attorney General to recover costs and reasonable attorneys' fees in an action brought to enforce the WSCRA. Provides a mechanism in the WSCRA for the termination, suspension, and reinstatement of certain telecommunication, Internet, health studio, and television service contracts.	
E2SHB 2009	Gold star families/higher education	Reeves
C 129 L 18 Effective date 6/7/2018.	Provides a \$500 annual textbook stipend to children and spouses receiving a tuition waiver because their parent or spouse passed away, became totally disabled, or is considered a prisoner of war or missing in action due to active military service	
2SHB 2269	Adaptive automotive equipment tax	Kilduff
C 130 L 18 Effective date 6/7/2018.	Extends the state sales and use tax exemption for add-on automotive adaptive equipment for 10 years.	
SHB 2342	Hunting & fishing/veterans	Lovick
C 90 L 18 Effective date 6/7/2018	Allows the Department of Fish and Wildlife to accept donations from the public towards the purchase of fishing and hunting licenses for disabled veteran residents.	
HB 2582	Department of Veterans Affairs	Reeves
C 45 L 18 Effective date 6/7/2018	Requires that the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) Deputy Director and assistant directors, hired by the Director be veterans. Changes the title of the managers of the state veterans homes to "administrator." Requires the WDVA to provide a hiring preference to honorably discharged veterans when hiring administrators for state veterans homes.	
ESHB 2701	Definition of veteran	Bergquist
C 61 L 18 Effective date 6/7/2018	Includes within the definition of a combat veteran periods of service that would qualify for a campaign badge or medal. Designates the end of the Persian Gulf War, for purposes of the combat veteran definition, as February 28, 1991, or November 30, 1995, if a campaign badge or medal was issued for that period. Includes certain specific campaigns within the combat veteran definition.	

Bill #	Title and Summary	Sponsor
HB 2851	Military leave calculation	Reeves
C 99 L 18	Allows employees that are scheduled to work shifts that continue into a second calendar day to be charged for only one day of military leave, and for shifts that continue into a third calendar day or further, to be charged for all days but the last calendar day of the shift.	
Effective date 6/7/2018		
SSB 5746	Association of WA generals	Kuderer
C 67 L 18	Adds "expands educational and/or employment opportunities for youth, veterans, and people with disabilities in Washington State" to the purpose section for the Association of Washington Generals (AWG). Allows the AWG to operate a statewide Washington World Fellows program rather than an essay competition. Provides that members of the AWG board may be compensated and reimbursed for their travel expenses. Provides up to 25 percent of the Seattle Seahawks special license plate proceeds to the AWG to create equity focused educational opportunities, including the Washington World Fellows Program	
Effective date 6/7/2018		
SSB 6012	Driver license veteran designation	King
C 69 L 18	The acceptable forms of documentation for a person requesting veteran designation on a driver's license or identicard is expanded to include a: federal Veteran ID card; Department of Defense Form 215; Department of Defense Form 2; National Guard Bureau Form 22; or other documentation establishing a person's service, and a discharge status of honorable or general under honorable conditions.	
Effective date 6/7/2018		
SSB 6514	Higher education / behavioral health	Brown
C L 18	Requires the Department of Health (DOH) to develop a statewide resource for behavioral health and suicide prevention for post-secondary institutions, including curriculum to train staff and students in suicide recognition, including the specific needs of student veterans. Creates a grant program to fund post-secondary institutions' behavioral health and suicide prevention. Requires post-secondary institutions to submit annual reports to the DOH regarding information related to behavioral health and suicide on their campuses.	
Effective date 6/7/2018		
SR 8728	Veteran's Day	Honeyford
Adopted by Senate	Commemorates the 100th Anniversary of Veteran's Day.	

Read the full text of these bills at <http://www.dva.wa.gov/about-wdva/legislative-updates>