

Veteran or Military Related Bills for 2021 Legislative Session as of 1/20/2021

SB 11 – Collection of veteran status information. Requires the family and social services administration, the department of education, the commission for higher education, and the professional licensing agency to include the following questions in an application for a benefit, financial assistance, a service, or a professional credential: (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". Provides that the applications must state that the applicant has the option to decline to answer the questions. Requires the agencies to keep the information submitted in a data base and to share the information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs. Allows the Indiana department of veterans' affairs to use the shared information to develop outreach programs for veterans and their families.

Author: Senator Kruse, Raatz, JD Ford

Status: Passed Veterans Affairs 1/12, assigned to Appropriations

SB 18 - Disabled veteran renter's deduction. Provides an income tax deduction, in addition to the current renter's deduction, to a disabled veteran who rents a dwelling as a principal place of residence. Provides that the additional deduction is equal to the amount the individual is entitled to deduct under the current renter's deduction multiplied by the individual's service connected disability rating.

Author: Senator Glick, JD Ford

Status: Passed Veterans Affairs 1/12, assigned to Tax and Fiscal Policy

SB 90 - Electronic gaming in veterans' service organizations. Authorizes wagering on video gaming terminals in licensed congressionally chartered veterans' service organizations. Establishes a licensing structure for participants in video gaming. Provides funding to the department of veterans' affairs for grants for veterans' services.

Author: Senator Tomes

Status: Public Policy

SB 91 - Hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program. Extends the expiration date of the hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program for veterans from June 30, 2021, to June 30, 2025. Provides that certain: (1) billing documentation; or (2) attendance documentation; may be used to authenticate the receipt of hyperbaric oxygen treatments for the purpose of payment approval by the department of veterans' affairs. Removes a provision that requires the state department of health to request proposals concerning hyperbaric oxygen treatment from certain geographic areas of Indiana. Specifies that a certain appropriation does not revert to the state general fund until July 1, 2025.

Author: Senator Tomes, Boots, Garten

Status: Veterans Affairs and The Military

SB 93 - Tuition charges for veterans. Provides that a: (1) qualified nonresident veteran; or (2) spouse or dependent of a qualified nonresident veteran; who enrolls in a state educational institution not later than three years after the date of the qualified nonresident veteran's discharge or separation from the armed forces of the United States or the Indiana National Guard is eligible to pay the resident tuition rate at a

Author: Senator Boots

Status: Education and Career Development

SB 267 - Video gaming terminals. Establishes the county service officers grant fund to provide grants to fund county service officers. Authorizes wagering on video gaming terminals in licensed congressionally chartered veterans' service organizations. Establishes a licensing structure for participants in video gaming.

Author: Senator Glick, Tomes

Status: Public Policy

SB 316 - Military and veterans matters. Changes the definition of a "qualified service member" for purposes of eligibility under the military relief fund (fund). Requires the Indiana veterans' affairs commission (commission) to: (1) develop and adopt a policy listing the disallowable separation codes of each branch of the armed forces; and (2) review the policy for amendment and adopt any necessary amendments before July 1 of each year. Provides that the department of veterans' affairs (department) may use not more than 15% of the average annual license plate revenue to cover monthly administrative costs. Provides that the department may deny an incomplete application for a grant under the fund if all required documentation is not received within 30 days after the date the applicant filed the application. Provides that, if an applicant appeals a denial of tuition and fee exemption benefits (benefits) not later than 15 days before the start of the semester for which the benefits would apply, the commission shall make reasonable effort to issue a final order before the start of the semester.

Author: Rep Senator Garten, Tomes, Boots

Status: Veterans Affairs and The Military

HB 1039 - Purple Heart license plate. Allows the surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient to obtain or retain a Purple Heart specialty license plate.

Author: Chris Judy, Abbott, Frye R, Morris

Status: Roads and Transportation 1/12, Hold for legal review

HB 1063 - Renter's tax deduction for disabled veterans. Allows a disabled veteran who rents a dwelling for use as the disabled veteran's principal place of residence to claim an additional renter's deduction from the disabled veteran's adjusted gross income. Provides that the additional deduction may not exceed \$3,000.

Author: Rep Aylesworth

Status: Ways and Means

HB 1071 - Expeditionary veterans license plate. Establishes the expeditionary veterans license plate.

Author: Rep Aylesworth

Status: Roads and Transportation

HB 1085 - Eligibility for National Guard supplemental grant. Provides that the National Guard tuition supplement program may be used by a scholarship applicant for graduate credits.

Author: Rep Heaton, Heine, Davis, Engleman

Status: Education

HB 1104 - Hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program. Extends the expiration date of the hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program for veterans from June 30, 2021, to June 30, 2025. Provides that certain: (1) billing documentation; or (2) attendance documentation; may be used to authenticate the receipt of hyperbaric oxygen treatments for the purpose of payment approval by the department of veterans' affairs. Removes a provision that requires the state department of health to request proposals concerning hyperbaric oxygen treatment from certain geographic areas of Indiana. Specifies that a certain appropriation does not revert to the state general fund until July 1, 2025

Author: Rep Zent

Status: Public Health

HB 1122 - Veterans' property tax deduction. Eliminates the assessed value cap that applies to the property tax deduction for a veteran who: (1) has a total disability; or (2) is at least 62 years of age and has at least a 10% disability.

Author: Rep VanNatter, Negele, Hatfield

Status: Ways and Means

HB 1174 - Taxation of military personnel deployed overseas. Provides that for a member of the armed forces deployed or stationed outside of the United States, the individual's tax rate for the income attributable to that military service is 1.62% (instead of 3.23%).

Author: Rep Klinker

Status: Ways and Means

HB 1188 - Green alert for missing at-risk veterans. Defines "veteran at risk". Creates the green alert program. Changes the name of the Indiana clearinghouse for information on missing children and missing endangered adults to the Indiana clearinghouse for information on missing children, missing veterans at risk, and missing endangered adults (clearinghouse). Makes conforming changes to the duties of the clearinghouse. Creates certain duties and reporting requirements for law enforcement agencies concerning missing veterans at risk. Provides immunity for a broadcaster who broadcasts, or an electronic billboard operator who displays, a green alert notification and a person who establishes or maintains a green alert Internet web site under an agreement with the state police department.

Author: Rep Gore, Pack

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1242 - Access to military records. Provides that any person may request the discharge records of a veteran if the veteran has been discharged for at least 62 years.

Author: Rep Ellington, Zent, Abbott

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1264 - Veterans' affairs. Provides that funds from the military family relief fund (fund) may be used to provide short term financial assistance, including emergency one time grants, to the families of eligible members of the armed forces. Removes financial hardship as a prerequisite for fund eligibility. Specifies disqualifying behavior for fund eligibility. Removes a provision requiring service during wartime or a national conflict as a prerequisite for fund eligibility. Removes a provision that prohibits service members with less than 12 months of service from receiving grants from the fund. Removes a provision prohibiting the Indiana veterans' affairs commission from acting on an incomplete application. Provides that the department of veterans' affairs (department) may use not more than 15% of the monthly revenue generated by the fund for the purpose of paying administrative costs associated with the operation of the fund. Allows the department to deny certain applications if the required documentation is not received within 30 days of an application's first submission. Increases certain deadlines from 15 days to 45 days. Requires the Indiana veterans' affairs commission to issue a final order concerning the denial of certain tuition and fee exemption benefits in certain instances. Defines certain terms. Makes conforming amendments. Makes a technical correction.

Author: Rep Bartels

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1346 - Income tax exemption for veterans at least 78 years of age. Provides a tax exemption from adjusted gross income for an individual who is at least 78 years of age and has served in the military during a time of war.

Author: Rep Cook, Frye, Judy, Gutwein

Status: Ways and Means

HB 1352 - Disabled veteran's hiring preferences. Requires the Indiana veterans' affairs commission to provide veterans with a list of: (1) services available to veterans in Indiana; (2) state agencies that offer services to veterans in Indiana; and (3) the telephone numbers, Internet web sites, and addresses of the agencies that offer services to veterans. Requires the office of the secretary of family and social services, the department of education, the commission for higher education, the department of workforce development, and the professional licensing agency (agencies) to include in an application for a benefit, financial assistance, a service, or a professional credential questions asking: (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". Provides that the applications must state that the applicant has the option to decline to answer the questions. Requires the agencies to keep the information submitted in a data base and to share the information with the

Indiana department of veterans' affairs. Allows the Indiana department of veterans' affairs to use the shared information to develop outreach programs for veterans and their families.

Author: Rep Speedy

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1355 - Collection of veteran status information. Requires the family and social services administration, the department of education, the commission for higher education, and the professional licensing agency (agencies) to include the following questions in an application for a benefit, financial assistance, a service, or a professional credential: (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". Provides that the applications must state that the applicant has the option to decline to answer the questions. Requires the agencies to keep the information submitted in a data base and to share the information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs. Allows the Indiana department of veterans' affairs to use the shared information to develop outreach programs for veterans and their families.

Author: Rep Speedy

Status: Ways and Means

HB 1392 - Licensure of military spouses. Amends the law concerning provisional occupational licenses for spouses of active duty members of the armed forces assigned to Indiana to eliminate a provision under which a military spouse applying for a provisional license is required to submit to a national criminal history background check. Provides instead that a military spouse applying for a provisional license must be determined by the appropriate board not to have a disqualifying criminal history if a national criminal history background check is required for the regulated occupation for which the military spouse seeks a license.

Author: Rep Zent, Frye, Judy

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1450 - Military family occupational licenses. Provides that a military service applicant who has held an occupational license, certification, registration, or permit (license) in another jurisdiction for at least one year may qualify for an Indiana license. Removes the requirement that an applicant have a license for at least two of the five years preceding the date of the application. Provides that an applicant may not have a complaint or investigation pending before an occupational licensing board that relates to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime. Provides that a military member's dependent may apply for an occupational license under the same conditions as a military member's spouse. Requires the board to issue a license to an applicant upon application based on work experience in another state if certain conditions are met. Allows an applicant to appeal a final determination of the board. Makes a technical correction.

Author: Rep May, Bartels

Status: Employment, Labor and Pensions

HB 1451 - Local veteran service officers. Provides that a county or city service officer hired after June 30, 2021, must: (1) be an honorably discharged veteran who has at least six months of active service in the armed forces of the United States; and (2) have resided in Indiana for at least two years before submitting an application for employment as a county or city service officer. (Current law permits a county or city service officer to have experience as a service officer assistant in lieu of being an honorably discharged veteran and permits nonresidents of Indiana to be hired upon the condition of establishing residence in Indiana within six months.) Makes conforming changes to the employment requirements for service officer assistants hired after June 30, 2021.

Author: Rep May

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety

HB 1508 - Free curricular materials for a child of a veteran. Provides that a parent: (1) whose child is enrolled in kindergarten or grades 1 through 12 in a public, charter, or accredited nonpublic school; and (2) who is a veteran; may not be required to pay fees for the child's curricular materials, supplies, or other required class fees.

Author: Rep Pack

Status: Education

HB 1568 - Veteran and military benefits for PFAS exposure. Establishes the PFAS chemical blood testing program under the Indiana department of veterans' affairs (department) for the purpose of blood testing: (1) veterans; (2) current members of the armed forces of the United States or of active or reserve components of the Indiana National Guard or Indiana Air National Guard; and (3) civilian personnel on certain military bases in Indiana; to determine whether there is a higher concentration of PFAS chemicals in the blood of those persons. Provides that not later than November 1 of each year, the Indiana veterans' affairs commission shall report to the legislative council on the results of the PFAS blood testing program with respect to the most recent state fiscal year.

Author: Rep Bauer

Status: Veterans Affairs and Public Safety