

Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary Veterans/Military Legislative Update

2021 55th Arizona Legislature First Regular Session

Friday, January 22, 2021

Inclusion of any legislation in the report does not constitute an endorsement of that legislation by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Arizona or the Auxiliary.

SB = Senate Bill

SCM = Senate Concurrent Memorial

SCR = Senate Concurrent Resolution

SR = Senate Resolution

HB = House Bill

HCM = House Concurrent Memorial

HCR = House Concurrent Resolution

HJR = House Joint Resolution

HR = House Resolution

To view, bills go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/bills/>

Directly Impacting Veterans/Military

Senate Bills

SB1024 enduring freedom memorial; appropriation

Allows The Department of Administration (ADOA) to use appropriated monies from the State Monument and Memorial Repair Fund (SMMRF) to alter or modify the Enduring Freedom Memorial to add additional names to the memorial. Additionally, appropriates an \$21,422.91 from the SMMRF to ADOA in FY22 to alter or modify the Enduring Freedom Memorial to add additional names.

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator Kelly Townsend, R – District 16

Major Actions: 11 Jan 2021 – Assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Rule Committee. 19 Jan 2021 Scheduled to heard in the Appropriations Committee.

SB1143 veterans of overseas conflicts plates

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates. Monies from the fund will be annually allocated to the Veterans of Foreign Wars entity located in this state.

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator Wendy Rodgers, R-District 6

Major Actions: 13 Jan 2021 – Assigned to the Senate Transportation and Technology Committee and Senate Rules Committee. Scheduled to be heard in the Transportation and Technology 21 Jan 2021, 9:30 am, SHR 109 21 Jan 2021 Heard in the Transportation and Technology Committee – Did Pass.

SB1149 occupational and professional licensure notice

Requires a printed statement on all license and certificate applications, regulating entity websites and all communications with a potential licensee that informs the applicant that they will be granted an occupational or professional license or certificate if the applicant has been

licensed or certified in another state for at least one year, in the same discipline, at the same practice level and meets the conditions outlined in existing statute pertaining to occupational licensing reciprocity for military spouses and those establishing residency in this state.

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator Warren Petersen, R-District 12

Major Actions: 13 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Commerce and Rules Committees. Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Commerce Committee on 20 Jan 2021.

SB1161 technical correction; military; special plates

The department of transportation shall issue military support special plates. The cost of issuing the military support special plates shall be paid by monies in the veterans' donations fund established pursuant to section 41-608. The Department of Veterans' Services and the Department of Transportation shall design the military support special plates. The director may allow a request for military support special plates to be combined with a request for personalized special plates. If the director allows such a combination, the request shall be in a form prescribed by the director and is subject to the fees for the personalized special plates in addition to fees required for military support special plated.

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator Sine Kerr, R District 13

Major Actions: 14 Jan 2020 – Assigned to the Rules Committee.

SB1172 veterans' home facility; Mohave County

The sum of \$25,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in the fiscal year 2021-2022 to the Department of Veterans' Service to construct and establish a Veterans' Home Facility in Mohave County.

Primary Sponsor(s): Prime Sponsor Senator Sonny Borrelli, R - District 5

Major Actions: 19 Jan 2021 – Assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Rules Committee.

SB1262 technical correction; military; school districts

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator Sonny Borrelli, R - District 5

Major Actions: 21 Jan 2021 Frist Read.

SB1312 veterans; special license plates; design

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary special plates if by December 31, 2021, a person pays \$32,000 to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for implementation. Additionally, establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates. Monies from the fund shall be annually allocated to a Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary entity located in this state for the purposes of using the monies to fund its charitable works.

Primary Sponsor(s): Prime Sponsor Senator Sonny Borrelli, R - District 5

Major Actions: None Taken

SB1331 veterans' income tax; exemption

Veterans' benefits, annuities, and pensions will exempt from Arizona State taxes.

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator David Gowan, R-District 14

Major Actions:

SCR 1006 military personnel; technical correction

Makes a technical change to replace, "soldier, seaman, or Marine in the Army or Navy" with "military personnel."

Primary Sponsor(s): Senator David Gowan, R-District 14

Major Actions: 12 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Rules Committee.

House Bills

HB2003 military justice; technical correction

Makes a technical correction.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Regina Cobb, R-District 5

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2109 bingo; conduct; licenses

Removes the prohibition relating to conducting a lottery or raffle within a 12-hour period before or after a bingo occasion or game and increases the gross receipt amounts for each license classification as follows:

- Class A license, from \$15,600 to \$75,000;
- Class B license, from \$300,000 to \$500,000; and
- Class C license, from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

Increases the threshold amount for cash prizes to be paid by check from amounts over \$150 to amounts over \$1,100.

Sponsor(s): Representative Aaron Lieberman, D-District28

Major Actions: 14 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Commerce and Rules Committees.

HB2128 state licensing; fee waivers

Requires that the occupational licensing fee be waived for any active duty military service member and the member's spouse or any Veteran if the individual is applying for that specific license in this state for the first time.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Joanne Osbourne, R-District 13

Major Actions: 20 Jan 2021 Assigned to Military Affairs & Public Safety, no action was taken. 21 Jan 2021 Second Read and assigned to the Rules Committee.

HB2217 appropriation; Chinle veterans nursing home

Appropriates \$9,000,000 from the State General Fund in FY21 to the Department of Veterans' Services to distribute to the Navajo Nation for the design and construction of a veterans nursing home in Chinle agency.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Arlando S. Telle, D- District 7

Major Actions: None

HB2518 appropriation; Navajo veterans housing

The sum of \$2,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in the fiscal year 2021-2022 to the department of economic security to distribute to the Navajo Nation veterans administration veterans housing program. These monies may be used only for Navajo veterans who reside in this state.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Myron Tsosie, D – District 7

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2235 appropriations; Native American veterans; renovations

- Appropriates \$200,000 from the State General Fund to the Department of Veterans' Services in FY2021-2022 to be distributed to the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration for a veterans' home renovation program.
- Appropriates \$200,000 from the State General Fund to the Department of Veterans' Services in FY2021-2022 to be distributed to the San Carlos Apache Tribe for a veterans' home renovation program.
- Appropriates \$200,000 from the State General Fund to the Department of Veterans' Services in FY2021-2022 to be distributed to the Hopi Tribe for a veterans' home renovation program.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Arlando S. Telle, D- District 7

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2464 veteran suicides; annual report..

Adds that the report on veteran suicides in this state provided by the Arizona Department of Health Services must include utilization and encounter data for a nonprofit veterans' services organization that provides services related to reducing suicides among this state's military and veteran populations.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Kevin Payne, R – District 21

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2272 consumer credit; military; federal law

Federal law provides important protections to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents relating to extensions of consumer credit. In general, the cost of consumer credit to a member of the Armed Forces and his or her dependent may not exceed an annual percentage rate of 36 percent.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Kelli Butler, D District 28

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2288 appropriation; military installation projects

Appropriates \$5,000,000 from the State General Fund in FY21 to the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to distribute to Yuma County for military installation preservation and enhancement projects.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Timothy Dunn, R-District 13

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2297 military leaves of absence; duration

An employer may not refuse to allow members of the national guard of this state or any other state or the United States armed forces reserves to take leaves of absence from employment for the purpose of complying with competent orders of this state, the other state, or the United States for active duty or to attend camps, maneuvers, formations or armory drills. The leaves of absence may not affect vacation rights that employees otherwise have, except that an employer need not consider the period of absence as a period of work in determining eligibility for vacation and the amount of vacation pay to which the employee is entitled.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Kevin Payne, R District 21

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2472 state agencies; veterans status; inquiry

Requires all state agencies, boards and commissions or other administrative units of this state to ask every individual at the initial point of service with that individual and to print on each application form the following question: "Have you or a family member ever served in the military?" Contains a delayed effective date of December 31, 2021. Also requires all state agencies, boards and commissions or other administrative units of this state to provide a website address and contact information the Be Connected Program to individuals who answer in the affirmative to the question "Have you or a family member ever served in the military?".

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Richard Andrade, D-District 29

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2472 special license plates; veterans; design

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates. Monies from the fund be annually allocated to the Veterans of Foreign Wars entity located in this state.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Richard Andrade, D-District 29

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2473 veterans; special license plates; design

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary special plates if by December 31, 2021, a person pays \$32,000 to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for implementation. Additionally, establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates. Monies from the fund shall be annually allocated to a Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary entity located in this state for the purposes of using the monies to fund its charitable works.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Richard Andrade, D-District 29

Major Actions: None Taken

HB2519 appropriation; military; discharge; tribal ceremonies

The sum of \$1,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in the fiscal year 2021-2022 to the department of veterans' services to distribute to Indian tribes located in this state to conduct tribal ceremonies for tribal members who are discharged from the military.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Myron Tsosie, D – District 7

Major Actions:

HB2542 veteran suicides; annual report

Adds that the report on veteran suicides in this state provided by the Arizona Department of Health Services must include utilization and encounter data for a nonprofit veterans' services organization that provides services related to reducing suicides among this state's military and veteran populations.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Justin Wilmeth, R-District 15

Major Actions: None Taken

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