HOUSE BILL 3043

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Roach, Dunn, McCune, Hurst, and Ahern

Read first time 01/21/08. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to combat bonuses for veterans; adding a new 2 section to chapter 73.04 RCW; and making an appropriation.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 73.04 RCW
to read as follows:

6 (1) Within funds appropriated for this purpose, the department of 7 veterans affairs shall pay each combat veteran a service bonus in the 8 amount of three thousand five hundred dollars for each deployment.

9 (2) As used in this section, "combat veteran" means a person who: 10 (a) Served or is serving in any branch of the armed forces of the 11 United States in the following conflicts: Operation Enduring Freedom, 12 Persian Gulf, or Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

(b) Can show proof of receiving one of the following: (i) The global war on terrorism expeditionary medal; (ii) award of hostile fire pay; or (iii) a leave and earning statement listing hostile fire pay.

16 (3) The veteran must show proof that Washington state is his or her 17 home of record.

18 (4) If the veteran is no longer serving in the military, he or she

must have been honorably separated or discharged in order to receive
 the bonus.

3 (5) A person who has already received extra compensation or other 4 benefits based upon claimed residence at the time of entry into such 5 active service from any other state or territory is not entitled to 6 compensation under this section.

7 (6) If the veteran is deceased, payment shall be made to his or her8 beneficiary.

9 (7) No claim for payment under this section is subject to 10 garnishment, attachment, levy, or execution.

11 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. The sum of . . . dollars, or as much 12 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending 13 June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of veterans 14 affairs for the purposes of this act.

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