

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1250**

---

**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** House State Government & Tribal Relations (originally sponsored by Representatives Orcutt, Ryu, Boehnke, Dufault, and Riccelli)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to designating Washington a purple heart state;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 38.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.60A RCW; adding  
4 a new section to chapter 47.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Washington state is grateful to be  
7 home to multitudes of United States armed forces members, veterans,  
8 and their families that have made the choice to protect freedom and  
9 our country.

10 (2) The purple heart medal is the oldest United States military  
11 decoration, dating back to 1782 when our state's namesake general  
12 George Washington created the badge of military merit to recognize  
13 heroic acts by his troops during the revolutionary war. Based on this  
14 example, the purple heart medal was created on George Washington's  
15 two hundredth birthday, February 22, 1932, and was made available for  
16 recognition of meritorious acts that occurred during World War I.

17 (3) Elizabeth Will designed the award to be a heart shaped medal  
18 with a profile image of general Washington that hangs from a purple  
19 ribbon.

1 (4) The purple heart medal is now presented to those members of  
2 the armed services who are killed or wounded in action as the result  
3 of an act of an enemy of the United States or in military combat.

4 (5) The state designated August 7th as purple heart recipient  
5 recognition day.

6 (6) The state offers a distinctive license plate for purple heart  
7 recipients.

8 (7) The state has multiple counties, cities, and locations that  
9 recognize portions of the transportation system as part of the purple  
10 heart trail.

11 (8) The designation of Washington as a purple heart state  
12 authorizes state agencies to honor purple heart recipients and  
13 recognize and proclaim the state as a purple heart state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16 Washington state is designated a purple heart state that honors  
17 people who have received the purple heart award.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 38.40  
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) Any state agency operating pursuant to this title is  
21 authorized to erect signs recognizing that Washington state is a  
22 purple heart state as designated in section 2 of this act. State  
23 agencies are authorized to accept gifts or donations to assist  
24 efforts related to Washington state being a purple heart state.

25 (2) The military department purple heart state account is created  
26 in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from gifts and  
27 donations received pursuant to this section must be deposited into  
28 the account. Expenditures from the account may only be used to erect  
29 signs or other activities that assist efforts related to Washington  
30 state being a purple heart state, as authorized under this section.  
31 Only the director of the military department or the director's  
32 designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is  
33 subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an  
34 appropriation is not required for expenditures.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.60A  
36 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The department is authorized to erect signs recognizing that  
2 Washington state is a purple heart state as designated in section 2  
3 of this act. The department is authorized to accept gifts or  
4 donations to assist efforts related to Washington state being a  
5 purple heart state.

6 (2) The department of veterans affairs purple heart state account  
7 is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from  
8 gifts and donations received pursuant to this section must be  
9 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may only be  
10 used to erect signs or other activities that assist efforts related  
11 to Washington state being a purple heart state, as authorized under  
12 this section. Only the director of the department of veterans affairs  
13 or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the  
14 account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter  
15 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 47.04  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The department is authorized to erect signs as part of the  
19 transportation system recognizing that Washington state is a purple  
20 heart state as designated in section 2 of this act, especially at  
21 entry points to the state. The department is authorized to accept  
22 gifts or donations to assist efforts related to Washington state  
23 being a purple heart state.

24 (2) The department of transportation purple heart state account  
25 is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from  
26 gifts and donations received pursuant to this section must be  
27 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may only be  
28 used to erect signs or other activities that assist efforts related  
29 to Washington state being a purple heart state, as authorized under  
30 this section. Only the secretary of the department of transportation  
31 or the secretary's designee may authorize expenditures from the  
32 account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter  
33 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

--- END ---