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**SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2014**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Volz, Donaghy, Leavitt, Couture, Ryu, Reed, Ormsby, Graham, Sandlin, Jacobsen, Schmidt, Harris, Steele, Fey, Riccelli, Low, Reeves, Paul, Macri, and Shavers; by request of Attorney General)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/24.

1       AN ACT Relating to the definition of veteran and restoring honor  
2 to veterans; amending RCW 41.04.005, 41.04.007, 2.48.070, 2.48.090,  
3 9.46.070, 28A.230.120, 28B.15.012, 28B.15.621, 28B.102.020,  
4 41.04.010, 41.06.133, 41.08.040, 41.12.040, 41.16.220, 43.24.130,  
5 43.60A.190, 43.70.270, 46.18.210, 46.18.270, 46.18.280, 46.18.295,  
6 46.20.027, 46.20.161, 72.36.030, 73.08.005, 73.16.010, 73.16.120,  
7 77.32.480, and 84.39.020; reenacting and amending RCW 41.20.050 and  
8 41.40.170; adding a new section to chapter 73.04 RCW; adding a new  
9 section to chapter 43.60A RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW  
10 2.48.100 and 73.04.042; providing an effective date; and providing an  
11 expiration date.

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

13       NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 1.**     The legislature intends to align the  
14 federal and state definition of "veteran," expanding state veterans'  
15 benefits to any veteran who is already eligible for federal  
16 department of veterans affairs monetary benefits. The legislature  
17 further intends to create eligibility for state benefits for veterans  
18 who were separated with less than honorable characterizations of  
19 service due solely to sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender  
20 expression or actions or statements related to sexual orientation,

1 gender identity, or gender expression, regardless of characterization  
2 of service.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 41.04.005 and 2023 c 18 s 1 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 (1) As used in this section (~~and RCW 41.16.220, 41.20.050, and~~  
6 ~~41.40.170~~), "veteran" includes every person, who at the time he or  
7 she seeks the benefits of this section and (~~RCW 41.16.220,~~  
8 ~~41.20.050, or 41.40.170~~) has received (~~an honorable discharge, is~~  
9 ~~actively serving honorably, or received a discharge for physical~~  
10 ~~reasons with an honorable record~~) a qualifying discharge as defined  
11 in section 4 of this act and who meets at least one of the following  
12 criteria:

13 (a) The person has served between World War I and World War II or  
14 during any period of war, as defined in subsection (2) of this  
15 section, as either:

16 (i) A member in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
17 States;

18 (ii) A member of the women's air forces service pilots;

19 (iii) A U.S. documented merchant mariner with service aboard an  
20 oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping administration, the  
21 office of defense transportation, or their agents, from December 7,  
22 1941, through December 31, 1946; or

23 (iv) A civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army  
24 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in  
25 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946;  
26 or

27 (b) The person has received the armed forces expeditionary medal,  
28 or marine corps and navy expeditionary medal, for opposed action on  
29 foreign soil, for service:

30 (i) In any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or

31 (ii) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots.

32 (2) A "period of war" includes:

33 (a) World War I;

34 (b) World War II;

35 (c) The Korean conflict;

36 (d) The Vietnam era, which means:

37 (i) The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May  
38 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of  
39 Vietnam during that period;

1 (ii) The period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7,  
2 1975;

3 (e) The Persian Gulf War, which was the period beginning August  
4 2, 1990, and ending on February 28, 1991, or ending on November 30,  
5 1995, if the participant was awarded a campaign badge or medal for  
6 such period;

7 (f) The period beginning on the date of any future declaration of  
8 war by the congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential  
9 proclamation or concurrent resolution of the congress; and

10 (g) Any armed conflicts, if the participant was awarded the  
11 respective campaign or expeditionary badge or medal, or if the  
12 service was such that a campaign or expeditionary badge or medal  
13 would have been awarded, except that the member already received a  
14 campaign or expeditionary badge or medal for a prior deployment  
15 during that same conflict.

16 **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.04.007 and 2017 c 97 s 1 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 "Veteran" includes every person who, at the time he or she seeks  
19 the benefits of RCW 46.18.212, 46.18.235, 72.36.030, 41.04.010,  
20 73.04.090, or 43.180.250, has received (~~(an honorable discharge,~~  
21 ~~received a discharge for medical reasons with an honorable record,~~  
22 ~~where applicable, or is in receipt of a United States department of~~  
23 ~~defense discharge document DD form 214, NGB form 22, or their~~  
24 ~~equivalent or successor discharge paperwork, that characterizes his~~  
25 ~~or her service as honorable)) a qualifying discharge as defined in  
26 section 4 of this act, and who has served in at least one of the  
27 following capacities:~~

28 (1) As a member in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
29 States, including the national guard and armed forces reserves, and  
30 has fulfilled his or her initial military service obligation;

31 (2) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots;

32 (3) As a member of the armed forces reserves, national guard, or  
33 coast guard, and has been called into federal service by a  
34 presidential select reserve call up for at least one hundred eighty  
35 cumulative days;

36 (4) As a civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army  
37 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in  
38 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946;

1 (5) As a member of the Philippine armed forces/scouts during the  
2 period of armed conflict from December 7, 1941, through August 15,  
3 1945; or

4 (6) A United States documented merchant mariner with service  
5 aboard an oceangoing vessel operated by the department of defense, or  
6 its agents, from both June 25, 1950, through July 27, 1953, in Korean  
7 territorial waters and from August 5, 1964, through May 7, 1975, in  
8 Vietnam territorial waters, and who received a military commendation.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 73.04  
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 For purposes of RCW 9.46.070, 28A.230.120, 28B.15.012,  
12 28B.15.621, 28B.102.020, 41.04.005, 41.04.007, 41.04.010, 41.06.133,  
13 41.08.040, 41.12.040, 43.24.130, 43.70.270, 46.18.270, 46.18.280,  
14 46.20.161, 72.36.030, 73.08.005, and 77.32.480:

15 (1) A "qualifying discharge" means:

16 (a) A discharge with an honorable characterization of service;

17 (b) A discharge with a general under honorable conditions  
18 characterization of service;

19 (c) A discharge with an other than honorable characterization of  
20 service if the applicant provides a letter, administrative decision,  
21 or other documentation from the United States department of veterans  
22 affairs showing eligibility for or receipt of monetary benefits, such  
23 as disability compensation or nonservice-connected pension; or

24 (d) Any characterization of service if the reason for discharge  
25 was listed as solely due to: (i) A person's sexual orientation,  
26 gender identity, or gender expression; (ii) statements, consensual  
27 sexual conduct, or consensual acts relating to sexual orientation,  
28 gender identity, or gender expression unless the statements, conduct,  
29 or acts are or were prohibited by the uniform code of military  
30 justice on grounds other than the person's sexual orientation, gender  
31 identity, or gender expression; or (iii) the disclosure of  
32 statements, conduct, or acts relating to sexual orientation, gender  
33 identity, or gender expression to military officials.

34 (2) (a) To prove a "qualifying discharge" under this section, an  
35 individual must provide official documentation that shows the  
36 following to the agency administering the sought benefit or  
37 protection:

38 (i) The individual's characterization of service; and

1 (ii) If an individual has a qualifying discharge under subsection  
2 (1)(d) of this section, also the individual's reason for discharge or  
3 narrative reason for separation.

4 (b) Proof may include, but is not limited to, a department of  
5 defense DD form 214, NGB form 22, or equivalent or successor official  
6 paperwork stating the required information from a government agency.  
7 Copies of official documents are acceptable as proof.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 43.60A  
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 The department shall develop and implement an outreach program to  
11 ensure that veterans as defined in RCW 41.04.005 and 41.04.007 are  
12 aware of state veterans' benefits and programs. Outreach information  
13 shall explain, in an easy to understand format, changes in the law  
14 made by chapter . . ., Laws of 2024 (this act), unchanged eligibility  
15 requirements for current benefits, and how to find more information  
16 about benefits from the department and other state agencies. The  
17 outreach program must begin on the effective date of this section.

18 **Sec. 6.** RCW 2.48.070 and 1945 c 181 s 1 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 Any person who shall have graduated from any accredited law  
21 school and after such graduation shall have served in the armed  
22 forces of the United States of America between December 7, 1941, and  
23 the termination of the present World War, may be admitted to the  
24 practice of law in the state of Washington and to membership in the  
25 Washington State Bar Association, upon motion made before the supreme  
26 court of the state of Washington, provided the following is made to  
27 appear:

28 (1) That the applicant is a person of good moral character over  
29 the age of twenty-one years;

30 (2) That the applicant, at the time of entering the armed forces  
31 of the United States, was a legal resident of the state of  
32 Washington;

33 (3) That the applicant's service in the armed forces of the  
34 United States is or was satisfactory (~~and honorable~~). An  
35 applicant's service is satisfactory if he or she meets the definition  
36 of "veteran" under RCW 41.04.007.

1       **Sec. 7.** RCW 2.48.090 and 2011 c 336 s 64 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       If an applicant under RCW 2.48.070 through 2.48.110 is, at the  
4 time he or she applies for admission to practice law in the state of  
5 Washington, no longer in the armed forces of the United States, he or  
6 she may establish the requirements of the proviso in RCW 2.48.070 as  
7 follows:

8       (1) If he or she shall have been an enlisted person, by producing  
9 (~~(an honorable discharge)~~) documentation he or she is a veteran as  
10 defined by RCW 41.04.007, and by the certificates of at least two  
11 active members of the Washington state bar association.

12       (2) If he or she shall have been an officer, by an affidavit  
13 showing that he or she (~~(has been relieved from active duty under~~  
14 ~~circumstances other than dishonorable)~~) is a veteran as defined in  
15 RCW 41.04.007, and by the certificates of at least two active members  
16 of the Washington state bar association.

17       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** RCW 2.48.100 (Admission of veterans—Effect  
18 of disability discharge) and 1945 c 181 s 4 are each repealed.

19       **Sec. 9.** RCW 9.46.070 and 2020 c 127 s 3 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21       The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

22       (1) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed  
23 one year to bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations approved  
24 by the commission meeting the requirements of this chapter and any  
25 rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto permitting said  
26 organizations to conduct bingo games, raffles, amusement games, and  
27 social card games, to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs in accordance  
28 with the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations  
29 adopted pursuant thereto and to revoke or suspend said licenses for  
30 violation of any provisions of this chapter or any rules and  
31 regulations adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That the commission  
32 shall not deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an  
33 effort to limit the number of licenses to be issued: PROVIDED  
34 FURTHER, That the commission or director shall not issue, deny,  
35 suspend, or revoke any license because of considerations of race,  
36 sex, creed, color, or national origin: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the  
37 commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend  
38 licenses subject to final action by the commission;

1           (2) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed  
2 one year to any person, association, or organization operating a  
3 business primarily engaged in the selling of items of food or drink  
4 for consumption on the premises, approved by the commission meeting  
5 the requirements of this chapter and any rules and regulations  
6 adopted pursuant thereto permitting said person, association, or  
7 organization to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs and to conduct  
8 social card games as a commercial stimulant in accordance with the  
9 provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted  
10 pursuant thereto and to revoke or suspend said licenses for violation  
11 of any provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations  
12 adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That the commission shall not  
13 deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an effort to  
14 limit the number of licenses to be issued: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the  
15 commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend  
16 licenses subject to final action by the commission;

17           (3) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed  
18 one year to any person, association, or organization approved by the  
19 commission meeting the requirements of this chapter and meeting the  
20 requirements of any rules and regulations adopted by the commission  
21 pursuant to this chapter as now or hereafter amended, permitting said  
22 person, association, or organization to conduct or operate amusement  
23 games in such manner and at such locations as the commission may  
24 determine. The commission may authorize the director to temporarily  
25 issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission;

26           (4) To authorize, require, and issue, for a period not to exceed  
27 one year, such licenses as the commission may by rule provide, to any  
28 person, association, or organization to engage in the manufacturing,  
29 selling, distributing, or otherwise supplying of devices, equipment,  
30 software, hardware, or any gambling-related services for use within  
31 this state for those activities authorized by this chapter. The  
32 commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend  
33 licenses subject to final action by the commission;

34           (5) To establish a schedule of annual license fees for carrying  
35 on specific gambling activities upon the premises, and for such other  
36 activities as may be licensed by the commission, which fees shall  
37 provide to the commission not less than an amount of money adequate  
38 to cover all costs incurred by the commission relative to licensing  
39 under this chapter and the enforcement by the commission of the  
40 provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted pursuant

1 thereto: PROVIDED, That all licensing fees shall be submitted with an  
2 application therefor and such portion of said fee as the commission  
3 may determine, based upon its cost of processing and investigation,  
4 shall be retained by the commission upon the withdrawal or denial of  
5 any such license application as its reasonable expense for processing  
6 the application and investigation into the granting thereof: PROVIDED  
7 FURTHER, That if in a particular case the basic license fee  
8 established by the commission for a particular class of license is  
9 less than the commission's actual expenses to investigate that  
10 particular application, the commission may at any time charge to that  
11 applicant such additional fees as are necessary to pay the commission  
12 for those costs. The commission may decline to proceed with its  
13 investigation and no license shall be issued until the commission has  
14 been fully paid therefor by the applicant: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That  
15 the commission may establish fees for the furnishing by it to  
16 licensees of identification stamps to be affixed to such devices and  
17 equipment as required by the commission and for such other special  
18 services or programs required or offered by the commission, the  
19 amount of each of these fees to be not less than is adequate to  
20 offset the cost to the commission of the stamps and of administering  
21 their dispersal to licensees or the cost of administering such other  
22 special services, requirements or programs;

23 (6) To prescribe the manner and method of payment of taxes, fees  
24 and penalties to be paid to or collected by the commission;

25 (7) To require that applications for all licenses contain such  
26 information as may be required by the commission: PROVIDED, That all  
27 persons (a) having a managerial or ownership interest in any gambling  
28 activity, or the building in which any gambling activity occurs, or  
29 the equipment to be used for any gambling activity, (b) participating  
30 as an employee in the operation of any gambling activity, or (c)  
31 participating as an employee in the operation, management, or  
32 providing of gambling-related services for sports wagering, shall be  
33 listed on the application for the license and the applicant shall  
34 certify on the application, under oath, that the persons named on the  
35 application are all of the persons known to have an interest in any  
36 gambling activity, building, or equipment by the person making such  
37 application: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission shall require  
38 fingerprinting and national criminal history background checks on any  
39 persons seeking licenses, certifications, or permits under this  
40 chapter or of any person holding an interest in any gambling



1 activity, building, or equipment to be used therefor, or of any  
2 person participating as an employee in the operation of any gambling  
3 activity. All national criminal history background checks shall be  
4 conducted using fingerprints submitted to the United States  
5 department of justice-federal bureau of investigation. The commission  
6 must establish rules to delineate which persons named on the  
7 application are subject to national criminal history background  
8 checks. In identifying these persons, the commission must take into  
9 consideration the nature, character, size, and scope of the gambling  
10 activities requested by the persons making such applications;

11 (8) To require that any license holder maintain records as  
12 directed by the commission and submit such reports as the commission  
13 may deem necessary;

14 (9) To require that all income from bingo games, raffles, and  
15 amusement games be recorded and reported as established by rule or  
16 regulation of the commission to the extent deemed necessary by  
17 considering the scope and character of the gambling activity in such  
18 a manner that will disclose gross income from any gambling activity,  
19 amounts received from each player, the nature and value of prizes,  
20 and the fact of distributions of such prizes to the winners thereof;

21 (10) To regulate and establish maximum limitations on income  
22 derived from bingo. In establishing limitations pursuant to this  
23 subsection the commission shall take into account (a) the nature,  
24 character, and scope of the activities of the licensee; (b) the  
25 source of all other income of the licensee; and (c) the percentage or  
26 extent to which income derived from bingo is used for charitable, as  
27 distinguished from nonprofit, purposes. However, the commission's  
28 powers and duties granted by this subsection are discretionary and  
29 not mandatory;

30 (11) To regulate and establish the type and scope of and manner  
31 of conducting the gambling activities authorized by this chapter,  
32 including but not limited to, the extent of wager, money, or other  
33 thing of value which may be wagered or contributed or won by a player  
34 in any such activities;

35 (12) To regulate the collection of and the accounting for the fee  
36 which may be imposed by an organization, corporation, or person  
37 licensed to conduct a social card game on a person desiring to become  
38 a player in a social card game in accordance with RCW 9.46.0282;

1 (13) To cooperate with and secure the cooperation of county,  
2 city, and other local or state agencies in investigating any matter  
3 within the scope of its duties and responsibilities;

4 (14) In accordance with RCW 9.46.080, to adopt such rules and  
5 regulations as are deemed necessary to carry out the purposes and  
6 provisions of this chapter. All rules and regulations shall be  
7 adopted pursuant to the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05  
8 RCW;

9 (15) To set forth for the perusal of counties, city-counties,  
10 cities and towns, model ordinances by which any legislative authority  
11 thereof may enter into the taxing of any gambling activity authorized  
12 by this chapter;

13 (16)(a) To establish and regulate a maximum limit on salaries or  
14 wages which may be paid to persons employed in connection with  
15 activities conducted by bona fide charitable or nonprofit  
16 organizations and authorized by this chapter, where payment of such  
17 persons is allowed, and to regulate and establish maximum limits for  
18 other expenses in connection with such authorized activities,  
19 including but not limited to rent or lease payments. However, the  
20 commissioner's powers and duties granted by this subsection are  
21 discretionary and not mandatory.

22 (b) In establishing these maximum limits the commission shall  
23 take into account the amount of income received, or expected to be  
24 received, from the class of activities to which the limits will apply  
25 and the amount of money the games could generate for authorized  
26 charitable or nonprofit purposes absent such expenses. The commission  
27 may also take into account, in its discretion, other factors,  
28 including but not limited to, the local prevailing wage scale and  
29 whether charitable purposes are benefited by the activities;

30 (17) To authorize, require, and issue for a period not to exceed  
31 one year such licenses or permits, for which the commission may by  
32 rule provide, to any person to work for any operator of any gambling  
33 activity authorized by this chapter in connection with that activity,  
34 or any manufacturer, supplier, or distributor of devices for those  
35 activities in connection with such business. The commission may  
36 authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses  
37 subject to final action by the commission. The commission shall not  
38 require that persons working solely as volunteers in an authorized  
39 activity conducted by a bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit  
40 organization, who receive no compensation of any kind for any purpose

1 from that organization, and who have no managerial or supervisory  
2 responsibility in connection with that activity, be licensed to do  
3 such work. The commission may require that licensees employing such  
4 unlicensed volunteers submit to the commission periodically a list of  
5 the names, addresses, and dates of birth of the volunteers. If any  
6 volunteer is not approved by the commission, the commission may  
7 require that the licensee not allow that person to work in connection  
8 with the licensed activity;

9 (18) To publish and make available at the office of the  
10 commission or elsewhere to anyone requesting it a list of the  
11 commission licensees, including the name, address, type of license,  
12 and license number of each licensee;

13 (19) To establish guidelines for determining what constitutes  
14 active membership in bona fide nonprofit or charitable organizations  
15 for the purposes of this chapter;

16 (20) To renew the license of every person who applies for renewal  
17 within six months after being (~~honorably~~) discharged, removed, or  
18 released from active military service in the armed forces of the  
19 United States with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of  
20 this act, upon payment of the renewal fee applicable to the license  
21 period, if there is no cause for denial, suspension, or revocation of  
22 the license;

23 (21) To authorize, require, and issue, for a period not to exceed  
24 one year, such licenses as the commission may by rule provide, to any  
25 person, association, or organization that engages in any sports  
26 wagering-related services for use within this state for sports  
27 wagering activities authorized by this chapter. The commission may  
28 authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses  
29 subject to final action by the commission;

30 (22) To issue licenses under subsections (1) through (4) of this  
31 section that are valid for a period of up to eighteen months, if it  
32 chooses to do so, in order to transition to the use of the business  
33 licensing services program through the department of revenue; and

34 (23) To perform all other matters and things necessary to carry  
35 out the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

36 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.230.120 and 2022 c 224 s 2 are each amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 (1) School districts shall issue diplomas to students signifying  
39 graduation from high school upon the students' satisfactory

1 completion of all local and state graduation requirements. Districts  
2 shall grant students the option of receiving a final transcript in  
3 addition to the regular diploma.

4 (2) School districts or schools of attendance shall establish  
5 policies and procedures to notify senior students of the transcript  
6 option and shall direct students to indicate their decisions in a  
7 timely manner. School districts shall make appropriate provisions to  
8 assure that students who choose to receive a copy of their final  
9 transcript shall receive such transcript after graduation.

10 (3)(a) A school district may issue a high school diploma to a  
11 person who:

12 (i) Is (~~an honorably discharged member~~) a veteran of the armed  
13 forces of the United States with a qualifying discharge as defined in  
14 section 4 of this act; and

15 (ii) Left high school before graduation to serve in World War II,  
16 the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era as defined in RCW 41.04.005.

17 (b) A school district may issue a diploma to or on behalf of a  
18 person otherwise eligible under (a) of this subsection  
19 notwithstanding the fact that the person holds a high school  
20 equivalency certification or is deceased.

21 (c) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt a form  
22 for a diploma application to be used by a veteran or a person acting  
23 on behalf of a deceased veteran under this subsection (3). The  
24 superintendent of public instruction shall specify what constitutes  
25 acceptable evidence of eligibility for a diploma.

26 (4)(a) A school district, at the request of the parent, guardian,  
27 or custodian, may issue a posthumous high school diploma for a  
28 deceased student if the student:

29 (i) Was enrolled in a public school of the district at the time  
30 of death;

31 (ii) Was deemed on-track for graduation before the time of death;  
32 and

33 (iii) Died after matriculating into high school.

34 (b) A high school diploma issued under this subsection (4) must  
35 bear the inscription "honoris causa" and may not be issued before the  
36 graduation date of the class in which the student was enrolled.

37 (c) Nothing in this subsection (4):

38 (i) Obligates school districts to award a diploma for a deceased  
39 student at the same ceremony or event as other graduating students;  
40 or

1 (ii) Limits the retroactive issuance of a high school diploma.

2 (d) Diplomas issued under this subsection (4) may not be applied  
3 toward student graduation counts or for any other purpose of federal  
4 and state accountability data collection.

5 **Sec. 11.** RCW 28B.15.012 and 2022 c 249 s 1 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Whenever used in this chapter:

8 (1) The term "institution" shall mean a public university,  
9 college, or community or technical college within the state of  
10 Washington.

11 (2) The term "resident student" shall mean:

12 (a) A financially independent student who has had a domicile in  
13 the state of Washington for the period of one year immediately prior  
14 to the time of commencement of the first day of the semester or  
15 quarter for which the student has registered at any institution and  
16 has in fact established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily  
17 for purposes other than educational;

18 (b) A dependent student, if one or both of the student's parents  
19 or legal guardians have maintained a bona fide domicile in the state  
20 of Washington for at least one year immediately prior to commencement  
21 of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at  
22 any institution;

23 (c) A student classified as a resident based upon domicile by an  
24 institution on or before May 31, 1982, who was enrolled at a state  
25 institution during any term of the 1982-1983 academic year, so long  
26 as such student's enrollment (excepting summer sessions) at an  
27 institution in this state is continuous;

28 (d) Any student who has spent at least seventy-five percent of  
29 both his or her junior and senior years in high schools in this  
30 state, whose parents or legal guardians have been domiciled in the  
31 state for a period of at least one year within the five-year period  
32 before the student graduates from high school, and who enrolls in a  
33 public institution of higher education within six months of leaving  
34 high school, for as long as the student remains continuously enrolled  
35 for three quarters or two semesters in any calendar year;

36 (e) Any person who has completed and obtained a high school  
37 diploma, or a person who has received the equivalent of a diploma;  
38 who has continuously lived in the state of Washington for at least a  
39 year primarily for purposes other than postsecondary education before

1 the individual is admitted to an institution of higher education  
2 under subsection (1) of this section; and who provides to the  
3 institution an affidavit indicating that the individual will file an  
4 application to become a permanent resident at the earliest  
5 opportunity the individual is eligible to do so and a willingness to  
6 engage in any other activities necessary to acquire citizenship,  
7 including but not limited to citizenship or civics review courses;

8 (f) Any person who has lived in Washington, primarily for  
9 purposes other than postsecondary education, for at least one year  
10 immediately before the date on which the person has enrolled in an  
11 institution, and who holds lawful nonimmigrant status pursuant to 8  
12 U.S.C. Sec. (a)(15) (E)(iii), (H)(i), or (L), or who holds lawful  
13 nonimmigrant status as the spouse or child of a person having  
14 nonimmigrant status under one of those subsections, or who, holding  
15 or having previously held such lawful nonimmigrant status as a  
16 principal or derivative, has filed an application for adjustment of  
17 status pursuant to 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1255(a);

18 (g) A student who is on active military duty stationed in the  
19 state or who is a member of the Washington national guard;

20 (h) A student who is on active military duty or a member of the  
21 Washington national guard who meets the following conditions:

22 (i) Entered service as a Washington resident;

23 (ii) Has maintained a Washington domicile; and

24 (iii) Is stationed out-of-state;

25 (i) A student who is on active military duty who is stationed  
26 out-of-state after having been stationed in Washington and is either:

27 (i) Admitted to an institution of higher education in Washington  
28 before the reassignment and enrolls in that institution for the term  
29 the student was admitted;

30 (ii) Enrolled in an institution of higher education in Washington  
31 and remains continuously enrolled at the institution; or

32 (iii) Enrolls in an institution of higher education in Washington  
33 within three years from the date of reassignment out-of-state;

34 (j) A student who is the spouse, state registered domestic  
35 partner, or a dependent as defined in Title 10 U.S.C. Sec. 1072(2) as  
36 it existed on January 18, 2022, or such subsequent date as the  
37 student achievement council may determine by rule of a person defined  
38 in (g) or (h) of this subsection. If the person defined in (g) of  
39 this subsection is reassigned out-of-state, the student maintains the  
40 status as a resident student so long as the student is either:

1 (i) Admitted to an institution before the reassignment and  
2 enrolls in that institution for the term the student was admitted;

3 (ii) Enrolled in an institution and remains continuously enrolled  
4 at the institution; or

5 (iii) Enrolled in an institution of higher education in  
6 Washington within three years from the date of reassignment out-of-  
7 state;

8 (k) A student who is eligible for veterans administration  
9 educational assistance or rehabilitation benefits under Title 38  
10 U.S.C. or educational assistance under Title 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606  
11 as the titles existed on January 18, 2022, or such subsequent date as  
12 the student achievement council may determine by rule;

13 (l) A student who has separated or retired from the uniformed  
14 services with at least 10 years of (~~honorable~~) service and at least  
15 90 days of active duty service, with a qualifying discharge as  
16 defined in section 4 of this act, and who enters an institution of  
17 higher education in Washington within three years of the date of  
18 separation or retirement;

19 (m) A student who is the spouse, state registered domestic  
20 partner, or child under the age of 26 years of an individual who has  
21 separated or retired from the uniformed services with at least 10  
22 years of (~~honorable~~) service and at least 90 days of active duty  
23 service, with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this  
24 act, and who enters an institution of higher education in Washington  
25 within three years of the service member's date of separation or  
26 retirement;

27 (n) A student who has separated from the uniformed services who  
28 was discharged (~~due to the student's sexual orientation or gender~~  
29 ~~identity or expression~~) for a reason described in section 4(1)(d) of  
30 this act;

31 (o) A student who is defined as a covered individual in 38 U.S.C.  
32 Sec. 3679(c)(2) as it existed on January 18, 2022, or such subsequent  
33 date as the student achievement council may determine by rule;

34 (p) A student of an out-of-state institution of higher education  
35 who is attending a Washington state institution of higher education  
36 pursuant to a home tuition agreement as described in RCW 28B.15.725;

37 (q) A student who meets the requirements of RCW 28B.15.0131 or  
38 28B.15.0139: PROVIDED, That a nonresident student enrolled for more  
39 than six hours per semester or quarter shall be considered as  
40 attending for primarily educational purposes, and for tuition and fee

1 paying purposes only such period of enrollment shall not be counted  
2 toward the establishment of a bona fide domicile of one year in this  
3 state unless such student proves that the student has in fact  
4 established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily for purposes  
5 other than educational;

6 (r) A student who resides in Washington and is on active military  
7 duty stationed in the Oregon counties of Columbia, Gilliam, Hood  
8 River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla,  
9 Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington; or

10 (s) A student who resides in Washington and is the spouse or a  
11 dependent of a person defined in (r) of this subsection. If the  
12 person defined in (r) of this subsection moves from Washington or is  
13 reassigned out of the Oregon counties of Columbia, Gilliam, Hood  
14 River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla,  
15 Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington, the student maintains the  
16 status as a resident student so long as the student resides in  
17 Washington and is either:

18 (i) Admitted to an institution before the reassignment and  
19 enrolls in that institution for the term the student was admitted; or

20 (ii) Enrolled in an institution and remains continuously enrolled  
21 at the institution.

22 (3)(a) A student who qualifies under subsection (2)(k), (l), (m),  
23 (n), or (o) of this section and who remains continuously enrolled at  
24 an institution of higher education shall retain resident student  
25 status.

26 (b) Nothing in subsection (2)(k), (l), (m), (~~((n), (r))~~) or (o) of  
27 this section applies to students who have a bad conduct discharge,  
28 officer dismissal, or dishonorable discharge from the uniformed  
29 services, or to students who are the spouse or child of an individual  
30 who has (~~(had)~~) a bad conduct discharge, officer dismissal, or  
31 dishonorable discharge from the uniformed services, unless the  
32 student is receiving veterans administration educational assistance  
33 benefits.

34 (4) The term "nonresident student" shall mean any student who  
35 does not qualify as a "resident student" under the provisions of this  
36 section and RCW 28B.15.013. Except for students qualifying under  
37 subsection (2)(e) or (p) of this section, a nonresident student shall  
38 include:

39 (a) A student attending an institution with the aid of financial  
40 assistance provided by another state or governmental unit or agency



1 thereof, such nonresidency continuing for one year after the  
2 completion of such semester or quarter. This condition shall not  
3 apply to students from Columbia, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, or  
4 Washington county, Oregon participating in the border county pilot  
5 project under RCW 28B.76.685, 28B.76.690, and 28B.15.0139.

6 (b) A person who is not a citizen of the United States of  
7 America, unless the person meets and complies with all applicable  
8 requirements in this section and RCW 28B.15.013 and is one of the  
9 following:

10 (i) A lawful permanent resident;

11 (ii) A temporary resident;

12 (iii) A person who holds "refugee-parolee," "conditional  
13 entrant," or U or T nonimmigrant status with the United States  
14 citizenship and immigration services;

15 (iv) A person who has been issued an employment authorization  
16 document by the United States citizenship and immigration services  
17 that is valid as of the date the person's residency status is  
18 determined;

19 (v) A person who has been granted deferred action for childhood  
20 arrival status before, on, or after June 7, 2018, regardless of  
21 whether the person is no longer or will no longer be granted deferred  
22 action for childhood arrival status due to the termination,  
23 suspension, or modification of the deferred action for childhood  
24 arrival program; or

25 (vi) A person who is otherwise permanently residing in the United  
26 States under color of law, including deferred action status.

27 (5) The term "domicile" shall denote a person's true, fixed and  
28 permanent home and place of habitation. It is the place where the  
29 student intends to remain, and to which the student expects to return  
30 when the student leaves without intending to establish a new domicile  
31 elsewhere. The burden of proof that a student, parent or guardian has  
32 established a domicile in the state of Washington primarily for  
33 purposes other than educational lies with the student.

34 (6) The term "dependent" shall mean a person who is not  
35 financially independent. Factors to be considered in determining  
36 whether a person is financially independent shall be set forth in  
37 rules adopted by the student achievement council and shall include,  
38 but not be limited to, the state and federal income tax returns of  
39 the person and/or the student's parents or legal guardian filed for

1 the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made and  
2 such other evidence as the council may require.

3 (7) The term "active military duty" means the person is serving  
4 on active duty in:

5 (a) The armed forces of the United States government; or

6 (b) The Washington national guard; or

7 (c) The coast guard, merchant mariners, or other nonmilitary  
8 organization when such service is recognized by the United States  
9 government as equivalent to service in the armed forces.

10 (8) The term "active duty service" means full-time duty, other  
11 than active duty for training, as a member of the uniformed services  
12 of the United States. Active duty service as a national guard member  
13 under Title 32 U.S.C. for the purpose of organizing, administering,  
14 recruiting, instructing, or training and active service under Title  
15 32 U.S.C. Sec. 502(f) for the purpose of responding to a national  
16 emergency is recognized as active duty service.

17 (9) The term "uniformed services" is defined by Title 10 U.S.C.;  
18 subsequently structured and organized by Titles 14, 33, and 42  
19 U.S.C.; consisting of the United States army, United States marine  
20 corps, United States navy, United States air force, United States  
21 coast guard, United States space force, United States public health  
22 service commissioned corps, and the national oceanic and atmospheric  
23 administration commissioned officer corps.

24 (10) "Washington national guard" means that part of the military  
25 force of the state that is organized, equipped, and federally  
26 recognized under the provisions of the national defense act of the  
27 United States, and in the event the national guard is called into  
28 federal service or in the event the state guard or any part or  
29 individual member thereof is called into active state service by the  
30 commander-in-chief. National guard service includes being subject to  
31 call up for active duty under Title 32 U.S.C. or Title 10 U.S.C.  
32 status or when called to state active service by the governor under  
33 the provisions of RCW 38.08.040.

34 (11) "Child" includes, but is not limited to:

35 (a) A legitimate child;

36 (b) An adopted child;

37 (c) A stepchild;

38 (d) A foster child; and

39 (e) A legal dependent.

1       **Sec. 12.** RCW 28B.15.621 and 2022 c 45 s 1 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) The legislature finds that active military and naval  
4 veterans, reserve military and naval veterans, and national guard  
5 members called to active duty have served their country and have  
6 risked their lives to defend the lives of all Americans and the  
7 freedoms that define and distinguish our nation. The legislature  
8 intends to honor active military and naval veterans, reserve military  
9 and naval veterans, and national guard members who have served on  
10 active military or naval duty for the public service they have  
11 provided to this country.

12       (2) Subject to the limitations in RCW 28B.15.910, the governing  
13 boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The  
14 Evergreen State College, and the community and technical colleges,  
15 may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for an eligible  
16 veteran or national guard member.

17       (3) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
18 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community and  
19 technical colleges, may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees  
20 for a military or naval veteran who is a Washington domiciliary, but  
21 who did not serve on foreign soil or in international waters or in  
22 another location in support of those serving on foreign soil or in  
23 international waters and who does not qualify as an eligible veteran  
24 or national guard member under subsection (8) of this section.  
25 However, there shall be no state general fund support for waivers  
26 granted under this subsection.

27       (4) Subject to the conditions in subsection (5) of this section  
28 and the limitations in RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards of the  
29 state universities, the regional universities, The Evergreen State  
30 College, and the community and technical colleges, shall waive all  
31 tuition and fees for the following persons:

32       (a) A child and the spouse or the domestic partner or surviving  
33 spouse or surviving domestic partner of an eligible veteran or  
34 national guard member who became totally disabled as a result of  
35 serving in active federal military or naval service, or who is  
36 determined by the federal government to be a prisoner of war or  
37 missing in action; and

38       (b) A child and the surviving spouse or surviving domestic  
39 partner of an eligible veteran or national guard member who lost his

1 or her life as a result of serving in active federal military or  
2 naval service.

3 (5) The conditions in this subsection (5) apply to waivers under  
4 subsection (4) of this section.

5 (a) A child must be a Washington domiciliary between the age of  
6 seventeen and twenty-six to be eligible for the tuition waiver. A  
7 child's marital status does not affect eligibility.

8 (b) (i) A surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner must be a  
9 Washington domiciliary.

10 (ii) (A) A surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner of the  
11 eligible veteran or national guard member has ten years to receive  
12 benefits under the waiver from whichever date occurs last:

13 (I) The date of the death;

14 (II) The date of total disability;

15 (III) Federal determination of service-connected death or total  
16 disability; or

17 (IV) Federal determination of prisoner of war or missing in  
18 action status.

19 (B) Upon remarriage or registration in a subsequent domestic  
20 partnership, the surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner is  
21 ineligible for the waiver of all tuition and fees.

22 (c) Each recipient's continued participation is subject to the  
23 school's satisfactory progress policy.

24 (d) Tuition waivers for graduate students are not required for  
25 those who qualify under subsection (4) of this section but are  
26 encouraged.

27 (e) Recipients who receive a waiver under subsection (4) of this  
28 section may attend full-time or part-time. Total credits earned using  
29 the waiver may not exceed two hundred fifty quarter credits, or the  
30 equivalent of semester credits.

31 (f) Subject to amounts appropriated, recipients who receive a  
32 waiver under subsection (4) of this section shall also receive a  
33 stipend for textbooks and course materials in the amount of five  
34 hundred dollars per academic year, to be divided equally among  
35 academic terms and prorated for part-time enrollment.

36 (6) Required waivers of all tuition and fees under subsection (4)  
37 of this section shall not affect permissive waivers of tuition and  
38 fees under subsection (3) of this section.

1 (7) Private vocational schools and private higher education  
2 institutions are encouraged to provide waivers consistent with the  
3 terms in subsections (2) through (5) of this section.

4 (8) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
5 section.

6 (a) "Child" means a biological child, adopted child, or  
7 stepchild.

8 (b) "Eligible veteran or national guard member" means a  
9 Washington domiciliary who was an active or reserve member of the  
10 United States military or naval forces, or a national guard member  
11 called to active duty, who served in active federal service, under  
12 either Title 10 or Title 32 of the United States Code, in a war or  
13 conflict fought on foreign soil or in international waters or in  
14 support of those serving on foreign soil or in international waters,  
15 and if discharged from service, has (~~received an honorable discharge~~  
16 ~~or any other discharge if the sole reason for discharge is due to~~  
17 ~~gender or sexuality~~) a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4  
18 of this act.

19 (c) "Totally disabled" means a person who has been determined to  
20 be one hundred percent disabled by the federal department of veterans  
21 affairs.

22 (d) "Washington domiciliary" means a person whose true, fixed,  
23 and permanent house and place of habitation is the state of  
24 Washington. "Washington domiciliary" includes a person who is  
25 residing in rental housing or residing in base housing. In  
26 ascertaining whether a child or surviving spouse or surviving  
27 domestic partner is domiciled in the state of Washington, public  
28 institutions of higher education shall, to the fullest extent  
29 possible, rely upon the standards provided in RCW 28B.15.013.

30 (9) As used in subsection (4) of this section, "fees" includes  
31 all assessments for costs incurred as a condition to a student's full  
32 participation in coursework and related activities at an institution  
33 of higher education.

34 (10) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
35 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community and  
36 technical colleges shall report to the higher education committees of  
37 the legislature by November 15, 2010, and every two years thereafter,  
38 regarding the status of implementation of the waivers under  
39 subsection (4) of this section. The reports shall include the  
40 following data and information:

- 1 (a) Total number of waivers;
- 2 (b) Total amount of tuition waived;
- 3 (c) Total amount of fees waived;
- 4 (d) Average amount of tuition and fees waived per recipient;
- 5 (e) Recipient demographic data that is disaggregated by distinct
- 6 ethnic categories within racial subgroups; and
- 7 (f) Recipient income level, to the extent possible.

8 **Sec. 13.** RCW 28B.102.020 and 2019 c 295 s 211 are each amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
11 this section apply throughout this chapter.

12 (1) "Approved education program" means an education program in a  
13 common school as defined in RCW 28A.150.020.

14 (2) "Certificate" or "certificated" does not include a limited or  
15 conditioned certificate.

16 (3) "Certificated employee" has the definition in RCW  
17 28A.150.203. "Certificated employee" does not include a paraeducator.

18 (4) "Conditional scholarship" means a loan that is forgiven in  
19 whole or in part in exchange for service as a certificated employee  
20 in an approved education program.

21 (5) "Eligible veteran or national guard member" means a  
22 Washington domiciliary who was an active or reserve member of the  
23 United States military or naval forces, or a national guard member  
24 called to active duty, who served in active federal service, under  
25 either Title 10 or Title 32 of the United States Code, in a war or  
26 conflict fought on foreign soil or in international waters or in  
27 another location in support of those serving on foreign soil or in  
28 international waters, and if discharged from service, has (~~received~~  
29 ~~an honorable discharge~~) a qualifying discharge as defined in section  
30 4 of this act.

31 (6) "Forgiven" or "to forgive" or "forgiveness" means that all or  
32 part of a loan is canceled in exchange for service as a certificated  
33 employee in an approved education program.

34 (7) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a  
35 college or university in the state of Washington that is accredited  
36 by an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the  
37 student achievement council.

1 (8) "Loan repayment" means a federal student loan that is repaid  
2 in whole or in part if the borrower serves as a certificated employee  
3 in an approved education program.

4 (9) "Office" means the office of student financial assistance.

5 (10) "Participant" means a person who has received a conditional  
6 scholarship or loan repayment under this chapter.

7 (11) "Public school" has the same meaning as in RCW 28A.150.010.

8 (12) "Shortage area" means an endorsement or geographic area as  
9 defined by the Washington professional educator standards board, in  
10 consultation with the office of the superintendent of public  
11 instruction, with a shortage of certificated employees. "Shortage  
12 area" must be defined biennially using quantitative and qualitative  
13 measures.

14 **Sec. 14.** RCW 41.04.010 and 2017 c 97 s 2 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 In all competitive examinations, unless otherwise provided in  
17 this section, to determine the qualifications of applicants for  
18 public offices, positions, or employment, either the state, and all  
19 of its political subdivisions and all municipal corporations, or  
20 private companies or agencies contracted with by the state to give  
21 the competitive examinations shall give a scoring criteria status to  
22 all veterans as defined in RCW 41.04.007, by adding to the passing  
23 mark, grade or rating only, based upon a possible rating of one  
24 hundred points as perfect a percentage in accordance with the  
25 following:

26 (1) Ten percent to a veteran who served during a period of war or  
27 in an armed conflict as defined in RCW 41.04.005 and does not receive  
28 military retirement. The percentage shall be added to the passing  
29 mark, grade, or rating of competitive examinations until the  
30 veteran's first appointment. The percentage shall not be utilized in  
31 promotional examinations;

32 (2) Five percent to a veteran who did not serve during a period  
33 of war or in an armed conflict as defined in RCW 41.04.005 or is  
34 receiving military retirement. The percentage shall be added to the  
35 passing mark, grade, or rating of competitive examinations until the  
36 veteran's first appointment. The percentage shall not be utilized in  
37 promotional examinations;

38 (3) Five percent to a veteran who was called to active military  
39 service from employment with the state or any of its political

1 subdivisions or municipal corporations. The percentage shall be added  
2 to promotional examinations until the first promotion only;

3 (4) All veterans' scoring criteria may be claimed:

4 (a) Upon release from active military service with (~~(an honorable~~  
5 ~~discharge or a discharge for medical reasons with an honorable~~  
6 ~~record, where applicable)) a qualifying discharge as defined in  
7 section 4 of this act; or~~

8 (b) Upon receipt of a United States department of defense  
9 discharge document DD form 214, NGB form 22, or their equivalent or  
10 successor discharge paperwork, that characterizes his or her  
11 (~~service)) discharge as ((honorable)) a qualifying discharge as  
12 defined in section 4 of this act.~~

13 **Sec. 15.** RCW 41.06.133 and 2023 c 148 s 1 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The director shall adopt rules, consistent with the purposes  
16 and provisions of this chapter and with the best standards of  
17 personnel administration, regarding the basis and procedures to be  
18 followed for:

19 (a) The reduction, dismissal, suspension, or demotion of an  
20 employee;

21 (b) Training and career development;

22 (c) Probationary periods of six to twelve months and rejections  
23 of probationary employees, depending on the job requirements of the  
24 class, except as follows:

25 (i) Entry-level state park rangers shall serve a probationary  
26 period of twelve months; and

27 (ii) The probationary period of campus police officer appointees  
28 who are required to attend the Washington state criminal justice  
29 training commission basic law enforcement academy shall extend from  
30 the date of appointment until twelve months from the date of  
31 successful completion of the basic law enforcement academy, or twelve  
32 months from the date of appointment if academy training is not  
33 required. The director shall adopt rules to ensure that employees  
34 promoting to campus police officer who are required to attend the  
35 Washington state criminal justice training commission basic law  
36 enforcement academy shall have the trial service period extend from  
37 the date of appointment until twelve months from the date of  
38 successful completion of the basic law enforcement academy, or twelve



1 months from the date of appointment if academy training is not  
2 required;

3 (d) Transfers;

4 (e) Promotional preferences;

5 (f) Sick leaves and vacations;

6 (g) Hours of work;

7 (h) Layoffs when necessary and subsequent reemployment, except  
8 for the financial basis for layoffs;

9 (i) The number of names to be certified for vacancies;

10 (j) Subject to RCW 41.04.820, adoption and revision of a state  
11 salary schedule to reflect the prevailing rates in Washington state  
12 private industries and other governmental units;

13 (k) Increment increases within the series of steps for each pay  
14 grade based on length of service for all employees whose standards of  
15 performance are such as to permit them to retain job status in the  
16 classified service;

17 (l) Optional lump sum relocation compensation approved by the  
18 agency director, whenever it is reasonably necessary that a person  
19 make a domiciliary move in accepting a transfer or other employment  
20 with the state. An agency must provide lump sum compensation within  
21 existing resources. If the person receiving the relocation payment  
22 terminates or causes termination with the state, for reasons other  
23 than layoff, disability separation, or other good cause as determined  
24 by an agency director, within one year of the date of the employment,  
25 the state is entitled to reimbursement of the lump sum compensation  
26 from the person;

27 (m) Providing for veteran's preference as required by existing  
28 statutes, with recognition of preference in regard to layoffs and  
29 subsequent reemployment for veterans and their surviving spouses by  
30 giving such eligible veterans and their surviving spouses additional  
31 credit in computing their seniority by adding to their unbroken state  
32 service, as defined by the director, the veteran's service in the  
33 military not to exceed five years. For the purposes of this section,  
34 "veteran" means any person who has one or more years of active  
35 military service in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
36 States or who has less than one year's service and is discharged with  
37 a disability incurred in the line of duty or is discharged at the  
38 convenience of the government and who, upon termination of such  
39 service, has received ~~((an honorable discharge, a discharge for  
40 physical reasons with an honorable record, or a release from active~~

1 ~~military service with evidence of service other than that for which~~  
2 ~~an undesirable, bad conduct, or dishonorable discharge shall be~~  
3 ~~given)) a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act.~~  
4 However, the surviving spouse of a veteran is entitled to the  
5 benefits of this section regardless of the veteran's length of active  
6 military service. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" does  
7 not include any person who has voluntarily retired with twenty or  
8 more years of active military service and whose military retirement  
9 pay is in excess of five hundred dollars per month.

10 (2) Rules adopted under this section by the director shall  
11 provide for local administration and management by the institutions  
12 of higher education and related boards, subject to periodic audit and  
13 review by the director.

14 (3) Rules adopted by the director under this section may be  
15 superseded by the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement  
16 negotiated under RCW 41.80.001 and 41.80.010 through 41.80.130. The  
17 supersession of such rules shall only affect employees in the  
18 respective collective bargaining units.

19 **Sec. 16.** RCW 41.08.040 and 1993 c 47 s 4 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 Immediately after appointment the commission shall organize by  
22 electing one of its members chair and hold regular meetings at least  
23 once a month, and such additional meetings as may be required for the  
24 proper discharge of their duties.

25 They shall appoint a secretary and chief examiner, who shall keep  
26 the records of the commission, preserve all reports made to it,  
27 superintend and keep a record of all examinations held under its  
28 direction, and perform such other duties as the commission may  
29 prescribe.

30 The secretary and chief examiner shall be appointed as a result  
31 of competitive examination which examination may be either original  
32 and open to all properly qualified citizens of the city, town or  
33 municipality, or promotional and limited to persons already in the  
34 service of the fire department or of the fire department and other  
35 departments of said city, town or municipality, as the commission may  
36 decide. The secretary and chief examiner may be subject to  
37 suspension, reduction or discharge in the same manner and subject to  
38 the same limitations as are provided in the case of members of the

1 fire department. It shall be the duty of the civil service  
2 commission:

3 (1) To make suitable rules and regulations not inconsistent with  
4 the provisions of this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall  
5 provide in detail the manner in which examinations may be held, and  
6 appointments, promotions, transfers, reinstatements, demotions,  
7 suspensions and discharges shall be made, and may also provide for  
8 any other matters connected with the general subject of personnel  
9 administration, and which may be considered desirable to further  
10 carry out the general purposes of this chapter, or which may be found  
11 to be in the interest of good personnel administration. Such rules  
12 and regulations may be changed from time to time. The rules and  
13 regulations and any amendments thereof shall be printed, mimeographed  
14 or multigraphed for free public distribution. Such rules and  
15 regulations may be changed from time to time.

16 (2) All tests shall be practical, and shall consist only of  
17 subjects which will fairly determine the capacity of persons examined  
18 to perform duties of the position to which appointment is to be made,  
19 and may include tests of physical fitness and/or of manual skill.

20 (3) The rules and regulations adopted by the commission shall  
21 provide for a credit in accordance with RCW 41.04.010 in favor of all  
22 applicants for appointment under civil service, who, in time of war,  
23 or in any expedition of the armed forces of the United States, have  
24 served in and been (~~honorably~~) discharged from the armed forces of  
25 the United States, including the army, navy, and marine corps and the  
26 American Red Cross, with a qualifying discharge as defined in section  
27 4 of this act. These credits apply to entrance examinations only.

28 (4) The commission shall make investigations concerning and  
29 report upon all matters touching the enforcement and effect of the  
30 provisions of this chapter, and the rules and regulations prescribed  
31 hereunder; inspect all institutions, departments, offices, places,  
32 positions and employments affected by this chapter, and ascertain  
33 whether this chapter and all such rules and regulations are being  
34 obeyed. Such investigations may be made by the commission or by any  
35 commissioner designated by the commission for that purpose. Not only  
36 must these investigations be made by the commission as aforesaid, but  
37 the commission must make like investigation on petition of a citizen,  
38 duly verified, stating that irregularities or abuses exist, or  
39 setting forth in concise language, in writing, the necessity for such  
40 investigation. In the course of such investigation the commission or

1 designated commissioner, or chief examiner, shall have the power to  
2 administer oaths, subpoena and require the attendance of witnesses  
3 and the production by them of books, papers, documents and accounts  
4 appertaining to the investigation and also to cause the deposition of  
5 witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in the  
6 manner prescribed by law for like depositions in civil actions in the  
7 superior court; and the oaths administered hereunder and the  
8 subpoenas issued hereunder shall have the same force and effect as  
9 the oaths administered by a superior court judge in his or her  
10 judicial capacity; and the failure upon the part of any person so  
11 subpoenaed to comply with the provisions of this section shall be  
12 deemed a violation of this chapter, and punishable as such.

13 (5) All hearings and investigations before the commission, or  
14 designated commissioner, or chief examiner, shall be governed by this  
15 chapter and by rules of practice and procedure to be adopted by the  
16 commission, and in the conduct thereof neither the commission, nor  
17 designated commissioner shall be bound by the technical rules of  
18 evidence. No informality in any proceedings or hearing, or in the  
19 manner of taking testimony before the commission or designated  
20 commissioner, shall invalidate any order, decision, rule or  
21 regulation made, approved or confirmed by the commission: PROVIDED,  
22 HOWEVER, That no order, decision, rule or regulation made by any  
23 designated commissioner conducting any hearing or investigation alone  
24 shall be of any force or effect whatsoever unless and until concurred  
25 in by at least one of the other two members.

26 (6) To hear and determine appeals or complaints respecting the  
27 administrative work of the personnel department; appeals upon the  
28 allocation of positions; the rejection of an examination, and such  
29 other matters as may be referred to the commission.

30 (7) Establish and maintain in card or other suitable form a  
31 roster of officers and employees.

32 (8) Provide for, formulate and hold competitive tests to  
33 determine the relative qualifications of persons who seek employment  
34 in any class or position and as a result thereof establish eligible  
35 lists for the various classes of positions, and to provide that  
36 persons laid off because of curtailment of expenditures, reduction in  
37 force, and for like causes, head the list in the order of their  
38 seniority, to the end that they shall be the first to be reemployed.

39 (9) When a vacant position is to be filled, to certify to the  
40 appointing authority, on written request, the name of the person

1 highest on the eligible list for the class. If there are no such  
2 lists, to authorize provisional or temporary appointment list of such  
3 class. Such temporary or provisional appointment shall not continue  
4 for a period longer than four months; nor shall any person receive  
5 more than one provisional appointment or serve more than four months  
6 as a provisional appointee in any one fiscal year.

7 (10) Keep such records as may be necessary for the proper  
8 administration of this chapter.

9 **Sec. 17.** RCW 41.12.040 and 1993 c 47 s 5 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 Immediately after appointment the commission shall organize by  
12 electing one of its members chair and hold regular meetings at least  
13 once a month, and such additional meetings as may be required for the  
14 proper discharge of their duties.

15 They shall appoint a secretary and chief examiner, who shall keep  
16 the records for the commission, preserve all reports made to it,  
17 superintend and keep a record of all examinations held under its  
18 direction, and perform such other duties as the commission may  
19 prescribe.

20 The secretary and chief examiner shall be appointed as a result  
21 of competitive examination which examination may be either original  
22 and open to all properly qualified citizens of the city, town, or  
23 municipality, or promotional and limited to persons already in the  
24 service of the police department or of the police department and  
25 other departments of the city, town, or municipality, as the  
26 commission may decide. The secretary and chief examiner may be  
27 subject to suspension, reduction, or discharge in the same manner and  
28 subject to the same limitations as are provided in the case of  
29 members of the police department. It shall be the duty of the civil  
30 service commission:

31 (1) To make suitable rules and regulations not inconsistent with  
32 the provisions of this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall  
33 provide in detail the manner in which examinations may be held, and  
34 appointments, promotions, transfers, reinstatements, demotions,  
35 suspensions, and discharges shall be made, and may also provide for  
36 any other matters connected with the general subject of personnel  
37 administration, and which may be considered desirable to further  
38 carry out the general purposes of this chapter, or which may be found  
39 to be in the interest of good personnel administration. Such rules

1 and regulations may be changed from time to time. The rules and  
2 regulations and any amendments thereof shall be printed,  
3 mimeographed, or multigraphed for free public distribution. Such  
4 rules and regulations may be changed from time to time;

5 (2) All tests shall be practical, and shall consist only of  
6 subjects which will fairly determine the capacity of persons examined  
7 to perform duties of the position to which appointment is to be made,  
8 and may include tests of physical fitness and/or of manual skill;

9 (3) The rules and regulations adopted by the commission shall  
10 provide for a credit in accordance with RCW 41.04.010 in favor of all  
11 applicants for appointment under civil service, who, in time of war,  
12 or in any expedition of the armed forces of the United States, have  
13 served in and been (~~honorably~~) discharged from the armed forces of  
14 the United States, including the army, navy, and marine corps and the  
15 American Red Cross, with a qualifying discharge as defined in section  
16 4 of this act. These credits apply to entrance examinations only;

17 (4) The commission shall make investigations concerning and  
18 report upon all matters touching the enforcement and effect of the  
19 provisions of this chapter, and the rules and regulations prescribed  
20 hereunder; inspect all institutions, departments, offices, places,  
21 positions, and employments affected by this chapter, and ascertain  
22 whether this chapter and all such rules and regulations are being  
23 obeyed. Such investigations may be made by the commission or by any  
24 commissioner designated by the commission for that purpose. Not only  
25 must these investigations be made by the commission, but the  
26 commission must make like investigation on petition of a citizen,  
27 duly verified, stating that irregularities or abuses exist, or  
28 setting forth in concise language, in writing, the necessity for such  
29 investigation. In the course of such investigation the commission or  
30 designated commissioner, or chief examiner, shall have the power to  
31 administer oaths, subpoena and require the attendance of witnesses  
32 and the production by them of books, papers, documents, and accounts  
33 appertaining to the investigation, and also to cause the deposition  
34 of witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in the  
35 manner prescribed by law for like depositions in civil actions in the  
36 superior court; and the oaths administered hereunder and the  
37 subpoenas issued hereunder shall have the same force and effect as  
38 the oaths administered by a superior court judge in his or her  
39 judicial capacity; and the failure upon the part of any person so

1 subpoenaed to comply with the provisions of this section shall be  
2 deemed a violation of this chapter, and punishable as such;

3 (5) Hearings and Investigations: How conducted. All hearings and  
4 investigations before the commission, or designated commissioner, or  
5 chief examiner, shall be governed by this chapter and by rules of  
6 practice and procedure to be adopted by the commission, and in the  
7 conduct thereof neither the commission, nor designated commissioner  
8 shall be bound by the technical rules of evidence. No informality in  
9 any proceedings or hearing, or in the manner of taking testimony  
10 before the commission or designated commissioner, shall invalidate  
11 any order, decision, rule or regulation made, approved or confirmed  
12 by the commission: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That no order, decision, rule  
13 or regulation made by any designated commissioner conducting any  
14 hearing or investigation alone shall be of any force or effect  
15 whatsoever unless and until concurred in by at least one of the other  
16 two members;

17 (6) To hear and determine appeals or complaints respecting the  
18 administrative work of the personnel department; appeals upon the  
19 allocation of positions; the rejection of an examination, and such  
20 other matters as may be referred to the commission;

21 (7) Establish and maintain in card or other suitable form a  
22 roster of officers and employees;

23 (8) Provide for, formulate and hold competitive tests to  
24 determine the relative qualifications of persons who seek employment  
25 in any class or position and as a result thereof establish eligible  
26 lists for the various classes of positions, and to provide that  
27 persons laid off because of curtailment of expenditures, reduction in  
28 force, and for like causes, head the list in the order of their  
29 seniority, to the end that they shall be the first to be reemployed;

30 (9) When a vacant position is to be filled, to certify to the  
31 appointing authority, on written request, the name of the person  
32 highest on the eligible list for the class. If there are no such  
33 lists, to authorize provisional or temporary appointment list of such  
34 class. Such temporary or provisional appointment shall not continue  
35 for a period longer than four months; nor shall any person receive  
36 more than one provisional appointment or serve more than four months  
37 as provisional appointee in any one fiscal year;

38 (10) Keep such records as may be necessary for the proper  
39 administration of this chapter.

1       **Sec. 18.** RCW 41.16.220 and 2007 c 218 s 38 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       Any person who was a member of the fire department and within the  
4 provisions of chapter 50, Laws of 1909, as amended, at the time he or  
5 she entered, and (~~who is a veteran,~~) is an honorably discharged  
6 veteran or received a discharge for physical reasons with an  
7 honorable record from the armed forces, and whose military service  
8 was during a period of war as defined in RCW 41.04.005, shall have  
9 added and accredited to his or her period of employment as a  
10 firefighter as computed under this chapter his or her period of war  
11 service in such armed forces upon payment by him or her of his or her  
12 contribution for the period of his or her absence, at the rate  
13 provided by chapter 50, Laws of 1909, as amended, for other members:  
14 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, Such accredited service shall not in any case  
15 exceed five years.

16       **Sec. 19.** RCW 41.20.050 and 2012 c 117 s 22 are each reenacted  
17 and amended to read as follows:

18       Whenever a person has been duly appointed, and has served  
19 honorably for a period of twenty-five years, as a member, in any  
20 capacity, of the regularly constituted police department of a city  
21 subject to the provisions of this chapter, the board, after hearing,  
22 if one is requested in writing, may order and direct that such person  
23 be retired, and the board shall retire any member so entitled, upon  
24 his or her written request therefor. The member so retired hereafter  
25 shall be paid from the fund during his or her lifetime a pension  
26 equal to fifty percent of the amount of salary at any time hereafter  
27 attached to the position held by the retired member for the year  
28 preceding the date of his or her retirement: PROVIDED, That, except  
29 as to a position higher than that of captain held for at least three  
30 calendar years prior to date of retirement, no such pension shall  
31 exceed an amount equivalent to fifty percent of the salary of  
32 captain, and all existing pensions shall be increased to not less  
33 than three hundred dollars per month as of April 25, 1973: PROVIDED  
34 FURTHER, That a person hereafter retiring who has served as a member  
35 for more than twenty-five years, shall have his or her pension  
36 payable under this section increased by two percent of his or her  
37 salary per year for each full year of such additional service to a  
38 maximum of five additional years.



1 Any person who has served in a position higher than the rank of  
2 captain for a minimum of three years may elect to retire at such  
3 higher position and receive for his or her lifetime a pension equal  
4 to fifty percent of the amount of the salary at any time hereafter  
5 attached to the position held by such retired member for the year  
6 preceding his or her date of retirement: PROVIDED, That such person  
7 make the said election to retire at a higher position by September 1,  
8 1969 and at the time of making the said election, pay into the relief  
9 and pension fund in addition to the contribution required by RCW  
10 41.20.130: (1) an amount equal to six percent of that portion of all  
11 monthly salaries previously received upon which a sum equal to six  
12 percent has not been previously deducted and paid into the police  
13 relief and pension fund; (2) and such person agrees to continue  
14 paying into the police relief and pension fund until the date of  
15 retirement, in addition to the contributions required by RCW  
16 41.20.130, an amount equal to six percent of that portion of monthly  
17 salary upon which a six percent contribution is not currently  
18 deducted pursuant to RCW 41.20.130.

19 Any person affected by this chapter who at the time of entering  
20 the armed services was a member of such police department and is  
21 ((a)) an honorably discharged veteran or received a discharge for  
22 physical reasons with an honorable record and whose military service  
23 was during a period of war as defined in RCW 41.04.005, shall have  
24 added to his or her period of employment as computed under this  
25 chapter, his or her period of war service in the armed forces, but  
26 such credited service shall not exceed five years and such period of  
27 service shall be automatically added to each member's service upon  
28 payment by him or her of his or her contribution for the period of  
29 his or her absence at the rate provided in RCW 41.20.130.

30 **Sec. 20.** RCW 41.40.170 and 2005 c 247 s 2 and 2005 c 64 s 1 are  
31 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

32 (1) A member who has served or shall serve on active federal  
33 service in the military or naval forces of the United States and who  
34 left or shall leave an employer to enter such service shall be deemed  
35 to be on military leave of absence if he or she has resumed or shall  
36 resume employment as an employee within one year from termination  
37 thereof.

38 (2) If he or she has applied or shall apply for reinstatement of  
39 employment, within one year from termination of the military service,

1 and is refused employment for reasons beyond his or her control, he  
2 or she shall, upon resumption of service within ten years have such  
3 service credited to him or her.

4 (3) In any event, after completing twenty-five years of  
5 creditable service, any member may have service in the armed forces  
6 credited to him or her as a member whether or not he or she left the  
7 employ of an employer to enter the armed service: PROVIDED, That in  
8 no instance, described in this section, shall military service in  
9 excess of five years be credited: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That in each  
10 instance the member must restore all withdrawn accumulated  
11 contributions, which restoration must be completed within five years  
12 of membership service following the first resumption of employment or  
13 complete twenty-five years of creditable service: AND PROVIDED  
14 FURTHER, That this section will not apply to any individual, not  
15 ((a)) an honorably discharged veteran ((within the meaning of)) or  
16 veteran who received a physical discharge from the armed forces with  
17 an honorable record. Furthermore, an individual must prove that their  
18 military service was during a period of war as defined in RCW  
19 41.04.005.

20 (4) (a) A member, after completing twenty-five years of creditable  
21 service, who would have otherwise become eligible for a retirement  
22 benefit as defined under this chapter while serving honorably in the  
23 armed forces, and with service during a period of war as referenced  
24 in RCW 41.04.005, shall, upon application to the department, be  
25 eligible to receive credit for this service without returning to  
26 covered employment.

27 (b) Service credit granted under (a) of this subsection applies  
28 only to honorably discharged veterans or veterans who received a  
29 physical discharge with an honorable record whose military service  
30 was during a period of war as defined in RCW ~~((41.40.005))~~ 41.04.005.

31 (5) The surviving spouse or eligible child or children of a  
32 member who left the employ of an employer to enter the uniformed  
33 services of the United States and died while serving in the uniformed  
34 services may, on behalf of the deceased member, apply for retirement  
35 system service credit under this subsection up to the date of the  
36 member's death in the uniformed services. The department shall  
37 establish the deceased member's service credit if the surviving  
38 spouse or eligible child or children:

39 (a) Provides to the director proof of the member's death while  
40 serving in the uniformed services; and

1 (b) Provides to the director proof of the member's honorable  
2 service in the uniformed services prior to the date of death.

3 (6) A member who leaves the employ of an employer to enter the  
4 uniformed services of the United States and becomes totally  
5 incapacitated for continued employment by an employer while serving  
6 in the uniformed services is entitled to retirement system service  
7 credit under this subsection up to the date of discharge from the  
8 uniformed services if:

9 (a) The member obtains a determination from the director that he  
10 or she is totally incapacitated for continued employment due to  
11 conditions or events that occurred while serving in the uniformed  
12 services; and

13 (b) The member provides to the director proof of honorable  
14 discharge from the uniformed services.

15 **Sec. 21.** RCW 43.24.130 and 2012 c 45 s 1 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the  
18 license of any person licensed by the director of licensing, or the  
19 boards and commissions listed in chapter 18.235 RCW, to practice a  
20 profession or engage in an occupation, if valid and in force and  
21 effect at the time the licensee entered service in the armed forces,  
22 the United States public health service commissioned corps, or the  
23 merchant marine of the United States, shall continue in full force  
24 and effect so long as such service continues, unless sooner  
25 suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law. The  
26 director, board, or commission shall renew the license of every such  
27 person who applies for renewal thereof within six months after being  
28 (~~honorably~~) discharged from service with a qualifying discharge as  
29 defined in section 4 of this act, upon payment of the renewal fee  
30 applicable to the then current year or other license period.

31 (2) If requested by the licensee, the license of a spouse or  
32 registered domestic partner of a service member in the United States  
33 armed forces, including the United States public health service  
34 commissioned corps, if valid and in force and effect at the time the  
35 service member is deployed or stationed in a location outside  
36 Washington state, must be placed in inactive military spouse or  
37 registered domestic partner status so long as such service continues,  
38 unless sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided  
39 by law. The director, board, or commission shall return to active

1 status the license of every such person who applies for activation  
2 within six months after returning to Washington state, upon payment  
3 of the current renewal fee and meeting the current renewal conditions  
4 of the respective license.

5 (3) The director, board, or commission may adopt any rules  
6 necessary to implement this section.

7 **Sec. 22.** RCW 43.60A.190 and 2017 c 185 s 7 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The department shall:

10 (a) Maintain a current list of certified veteran-owned  
11 businesses; and

12 (b) Make the list of certified veteran-owned businesses available  
13 on the department's public website.

14 (2) To qualify as a certified veteran-owned business, the  
15 business must:

16 (a) Be at least fifty-one percent owned and controlled by:

17 (i) A ~~((veteran as defined as every))~~ person who at the time he  
18 or she seeks certification ~~((has received a discharge with an  
19 honorable characterization or received a discharge for medical  
20 reasons with an honorable record, where applicable, and who has  
21 served in at least one of the capacities listed))~~ is a veteran as  
22 defined in RCW 41.04.007;

23 (ii) A person who is in receipt of disability compensation or  
24 pension from the department of veterans affairs; or

25 (iii) An active or reserve member in any branch of the armed  
26 forces of the United States, including the national guard, coast  
27 guard, and armed forces reserves; and

28 (b) Be either an enterprise which is incorporated in the state of  
29 Washington as a Washington domestic corporation, or an enterprise  
30 whose principal place of business is located within the state of  
31 Washington for enterprises which are not incorporated.

32 (3) To participate in the linked deposit program under chapter  
33 43.86A RCW, a veteran-owned business qualified under this section  
34 must be certified by the department as a business:

35 (a) In which the veteran owner possesses and exercises sufficient  
36 expertise specifically in the business's field of operation to make  
37 decisions governing the long-term direction and the day-to-day  
38 operations of the business;

1 (b) That is organized for profit and performing a commercially  
2 useful function; and

3 (c) That meets the criteria for a small business concern as  
4 established under chapter 39.19 RCW.

5 (4) The department shall create a logo for the purpose of  
6 identifying veteran-owned businesses to the public. The department  
7 shall put the logo on an adhesive sticker or decal suitable for  
8 display in a business window and distribute the stickers or decals to  
9 veteran-owned businesses listed with the department.

10 (5) (a) Businesses may submit an application on a form prescribed  
11 by the department to apply for certification under this section.

12 (b) The department must notify the state treasurer of veteran-  
13 owned businesses who have participated in the linked deposit program  
14 and are no longer certified under this section. The written  
15 notification to the state treasurer must contain information  
16 regarding the reasons for the decertification and information on  
17 financing provided to the veteran-owned business under RCW  
18 43.86A.060.

19 (6) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this  
20 section.

21 **Sec. 23.** RCW 43.70.270 and 2012 c 45 s 2 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the  
24 license of any person licensed by the secretary of health to practice  
25 a profession or engage in an occupation, if valid and in force and  
26 effect at the time the licensee entered service in the armed forces,  
27 the United States public health service commissioned corps, or the  
28 merchant marine of the United States, shall continue in full force  
29 and effect so long as such service continues, unless sooner  
30 suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law. The  
31 secretary shall renew the license of every such person who applies  
32 for renewal thereof within six months after being (~~honorably~~)  
33 discharged from service with a qualifying discharge as defined in  
34 section 4 of this act, upon payment of the renewal fee applicable to  
35 the then current year or other license period.

36 (2) If requested by the licensee, the license of a spouse or  
37 registered domestic partner of a service member in the United States  
38 armed forces, including the United States public health service  
39 commissioned corps, if valid and in force and effect at the time the

1 service member is deployed or stationed in a location outside  
2 Washington state, must be placed in inactive military spouse or  
3 registered domestic partner status so long as such service continues,  
4 unless sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided  
5 by law. The secretary shall return to active status the license of  
6 every such person who applies for renewal thereof within six months  
7 after the service member is (~~honorably~~) discharged from service  
8 with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act, or  
9 sooner if requested by the licensee, upon payment of the renewal fee  
10 applicable to the then current year or other license period.

11 (3) The secretary may adopt any rules necessary to implement this  
12 section.

13 **Sec. 24.** RCW 46.18.210 and 2019 c 44 s 5 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) A registered owner may apply to the department for special  
16 armed forces license plates for vehicles representing the following:

- 17 (a) Air force;
- 18 (b) Army;
- 19 (c) Coast guard;
- 20 (d) Marine corps;
- 21 (e) National guard; or
- 22 (f) Navy.

23 (2) Armed forces license plates may be purchased by:

- 24 (a) Active duty military personnel;
- 25 (b) Families of veterans and service members;
- 26 (c) Members of the national guard;
- 27 (d) Reservists; or
- 28 (e) Veterans, as defined in RCW 41.04.007.

29 (3) A person who applies for special armed forces license plates  
30 shall provide:

- 31 (a) DD-214 or discharge papers if the applicant is a veteran;
- 32 (b) A military identification card or retired military  
33 identification card; or
- 34 (c) A declaration of fact attesting to the applicant's  
35 eligibility as required under this section.

36 (4) For the purposes of this section:

- 37 (a) "Child" includes stepchild, adopted child, foster child,  
38 grandchild, or son or daughter-in-law.

1 (b) "Family" or "families" includes an individual's spouse,  
2 child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, or cousin.

3 (c) "Parent" includes stepparent, grandparent, or in-laws.

4 (d) "Sibling" includes brother, half brother, stepbrother,  
5 sister, half sister, stepsister, or brother or sister-in-law.

6 (5) Armed forces license plates are not free of charge to  
7 disabled veterans, former prisoners of war, or spouses or domestic  
8 partners of deceased former prisoners of war under RCW 46.18.235.

9 (6) The department must implement the changes to veteran  
10 eligibility as established by chapter . . ., Laws of 2024 (this act)  
11 by April 1, 2025.

12 **Sec. 25.** RCW 46.18.270 and 2011 c 332 s 7 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (1) A registered owner who has survived the attack on Pearl  
15 Harbor on December 7, 1941, may apply to the department for special  
16 license plates for use on only one motor vehicle required to display  
17 one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under  
18 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the  
19 department, and owned by the qualified applicant. The applicant must:

20 (a) Be a resident of this state;

21 (b) Have been a member of the United States armed forces on  
22 December 7, 1941;

23 (c) Have been on station on December 7, 1941, between the hours  
24 of 7:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of  
25 Oahu, or offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;

26 (d) Have received (~~(an honorable)~~) a qualifying discharge, as  
27 defined in section 4 of this act, from the United States armed  
28 forces;

29 (e) Provide certification by a Washington state chapter of the  
30 Pearl Harbor survivors association showing that qualifications in (c)  
31 of this subsection have been met;

32 (f) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on  
33 which the Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates will be  
34 displayed; and

35 (g) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the  
36 motor vehicle.

37 (2) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be issued without  
38 the payment of any license plate fee.

1 (3) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be replaced, free  
2 of charge, if the license plates have become lost, stolen, damaged,  
3 defaced, or destroyed.

4 (4) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates may be issued to the  
5 surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Pearl Harbor survivor who  
6 met the requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving  
7 spouse or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the  
8 surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries  
9 or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the  
10 special license plates to the department within fifteen days and  
11 apply for regular license plates or another type of special license  
12 plate.

13 (5) A Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates may be  
14 transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by  
15 the Pearl Harbor survivor or the surviving spouse or domestic partner  
16 as described in subsection (4) of this section upon application to  
17 the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed  
18 by the director.

19 **Sec. 26.** RCW 46.18.280 and 2019 c 139 s 1 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1) A registered owner who has been awarded a Purple Heart medal  
22 by any branch of the United States armed forces, including the  
23 merchant marines and the women's air forces service pilots may apply  
24 to the department for special license plates for use on a motor  
25 vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding  
26 vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and  
27 conditions established by the department, and owned by the qualified  
28 applicant. The applicant must:

29 (a) Be a resident of this state;

30 (b) Have been wounded during one of this nation's wars or  
31 conflicts identified in RCW 41.04.005;

32 (c) Have received (~~an honorable~~) a qualifying discharge, as  
33 defined in section 4 of this act, from the United States armed  
34 forces;

35 (d) Provide a copy of the armed forces document showing the  
36 recipient was awarded the Purple Heart medal; and

37 (e) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on  
38 which the Purple Heart license plate or plates will be displayed.



1 (2) Purple Heart license plates must be issued without the  
2 payment of any vehicle license fees, license plate fees, motor  
3 vehicle excise taxes, and special license plate fees for one motor  
4 vehicle. For other motor vehicles, qualified applicants may purchase  
5 Purple Heart license plates for the fee required under RCW  
6 46.17.220(~~(+17)~~) (18) and all other fees and taxes required by law  
7 for registering the motor vehicle.

8 (3) Purple Heart license plates may be issued to the surviving  
9 spouse or domestic partner of a Purple Heart recipient who met the  
10 requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving spouse  
11 or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the  
12 surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries  
13 or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the  
14 special license plates to the department within fifteen days and  
15 apply for regular license plates or another type of special license  
16 plate.

17 (4) A Purple Heart license plate or plates may be transferred  
18 from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Purple  
19 Heart recipient or the surviving spouse or domestic partner as  
20 described in subsection (3) of this section upon application to the  
21 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by  
22 the director.

23 **Sec. 27.** RCW 46.18.295 and 2012 c 69 s 1 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1) Veterans (~~((discharged under honorable conditions (veterans)))~~)  
26 and (~~((individuals serving on active duty in the United States armed~~  
27 ~~forces ()))~~) active duty military personnel(~~(+)~~) may purchase a veterans  
28 remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military service award  
29 emblem. The emblem is to be displayed on license plates in the manner  
30 described by the department, existing vehicular registration  
31 procedures, and current laws.

32 (2) For purposes of this section:

33 (a) "Active duty military personnel" means an individual serving  
34 on active duty in the United States armed forces.

35 (b) "Veteran" has the meaning defined in RCW 41.04.007.

36 (3) Veterans and active duty military personnel who served during  
37 periods of war or armed conflict may purchase a remembrance emblem  
38 depicting campaign ribbons which they were awarded.

1        ~~((3))~~ (4) The following campaign ribbon remembrance emblems are  
2 available:

- 3        (a) World War I victory medal;
- 4        (b) World War II Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal;
- 5        (c) World War II European-African Middle East campaign medal;
- 6        (d) World War II American campaign medal;
- 7        (e) Korean service medal;
- 8        (f) Vietnam service medal;
- 9        (g) Armed forces expeditionary medal awarded after 1958; and
- 10       (h) Southwest Asia medal.

11       The director may issue additional campaign ribbon emblems by rule  
12 as authorized decorations by the United States department of defense.

13       ~~((4))~~ (5) The following military service award emblems are  
14 available:

- 15       (a) Distinguished Service Cross;
- 16       (b) Navy Cross;
- 17       (c) Air Force Cross;
- 18       (d) Silver Star medal; and
- 19       (e) Bronze Star medal.

20       ~~((5))~~ (6) Veterans or active duty military personnel requesting  
21 a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military  
22 service award emblem or emblems must:

- 23       (a) Pay a prescribed fee set by the department; and
- 24       (b) Show proof of eligibility through:
  - 25        (i) Providing a DD-214 or discharge papers, as well as necessary  
26 documentation to prove eligibility as a veteran with an other than  
27 honorable characterization of service, if a veteran;
  - 28        (ii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a campaign ribbon if an  
29 individual serving on military active duty;
  - 30        (iii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a military service  
31 award; or
  - 32        (iv) Attesting in a notarized affidavit of their eligibility as  
33 required under this section.

34       ~~((6))~~ (7) Veterans or active duty military personnel who  
35 purchase a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or  
36 military service award emblem must be the legal or registered owner  
37 of the vehicle on which the emblem is to be displayed.

38       **Sec. 28.** RCW 46.20.027 and 2002 c 292 s 3 are each amended to  
39 read as follows:

1 A Washington state motor vehicle driver's license issued to any  
2 service member if valid and in force and effect while such person is  
3 serving in the armed forces, shall remain in full force and effect so  
4 long as such service continues unless the same is sooner suspended,  
5 canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law and for not to  
6 exceed ninety days following the date on which the holder of such  
7 driver's license is (~~honorably~~) separated from service in the armed  
8 forces of the United States. A Washington state driver's license  
9 issued to the spouse or dependent child of such service member  
10 likewise remains in full force and effect if the person is residing  
11 with the service member.

12 For purposes of this section, "service member" means every person  
13 serving in the armed forces whose branch of service as of the date of  
14 application for the driver's license is included in the definition of  
15 veteran pursuant to RCW 41.04.007 or the person will meet the  
16 definition of veteran at the time of discharge.

17 **Sec. 29.** RCW 46.20.161 and 2021 c 158 s 7 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) The department, upon receipt of a fee of seventy-two dollars,  
20 unless the driver's license is issued for a period other than eight  
21 years, in which case the fee shall be nine dollars for each year that  
22 the license is issued, which includes the fee for the required  
23 photograph, shall issue to every qualifying applicant a driver's  
24 license. A driver's license issued to a person under the age of  
25 eighteen is an intermediate license, subject to the restrictions  
26 imposed under RCW 46.20.075, until the person reaches the age of  
27 eighteen.

28 (2) The license must include:

29 (a) A distinguishing number assigned to the licensee;

30 (b) The name of record;

31 (c) Date of birth;

32 (d) Washington residence address;

33 (e) Photograph;

34 (f) A brief description of the licensee;

35 (g) Either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a  
36 space upon which the licensee shall write the licensees' usual  
37 signature with pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license;

38 (h) If applicable, the person's status as a veteran as provided  
39 in subsection (4) of this section; and

1 (i) If applicable, a medical alert designation as provided in  
2 subsection (5) of this section.

3 (3) No license is valid until it has been signed by the licensee.

4 (4) (a) A veteran, as defined in RCW 41.04.007, (~~or an individual~~  
5 ~~who otherwise meets the criteria of RCW 41.04.007 but who has~~  
6 ~~received a general discharge under honorable conditions,~~) may apply  
7 to the department to obtain a veteran designation on a driver's  
8 license issued under this section by providing:

9 (i) A United States department of veterans affairs identification  
10 card or proof of service letter;

11 (ii) A United States department of defense discharge document, DD  
12 Form 214 or DD Form 215, as it exists on June 7, 2018, or such  
13 subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule,  
14 consistent with the purposes of this section, or equivalent or  
15 successor discharge paperwork, (~~that shows a discharge status of~~  
16 ~~"honorable" or "general under honorable conditions"~~) that  
17 establishes the person's service in the armed forces of the United  
18 States and qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act;

19 (iii) A national guard state-issued report of separation and  
20 military service, NGB Form 22, as it exists on June 7, 2018, or such  
21 subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule,  
22 consistent with the purposes of this section, or equivalent or  
23 successor discharge paperwork, (~~that shows a discharge status of~~  
24 ~~"honorable" or "general under honorable conditions"~~) that  
25 establishes the person's active duty or reserve service in the  
26 national guard and qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of  
27 this act; or

28 (iv) A United States uniformed services identification card, DD  
29 Form 2, that displays on its face that it has been issued to a  
30 retired member of any of the armed forces of the United States,  
31 including the national guard and armed forces reserves.

32 (b) The department may permit a veteran, as defined in RCW  
33 41.04.007, (~~or an individual who otherwise meets the criteria of RCW~~  
34 ~~41.04.007 but who has received a general discharge under honorable~~  
35 ~~conditions,~~) to submit (~~an~~) alternate forms of documentation to  
36 apply to obtain a veteran designation on a driver's license (~~as~~  
37 ~~specified by rule, that requires a discharge status of "honorable" or~~  
38 ~~"general under honorable conditions" and that establishes the~~  
39 ~~person's service as required under RCW 41.04.007).~~

1 (5) Any person may apply to the department to obtain a medical  
2 alert designation, a developmental disability designation, or a  
3 deafness designation on a driver's license issued under this chapter  
4 by providing:

5 (a) Self-attestation that the individual:

6 (i) Has a medical condition that could affect communication or  
7 account for a driver health emergency;

8 (ii) Is deaf or hard of hearing; or

9 (iii) Has a developmental disability as defined in RCW  
10 71A.10.020;

11 (b) A statement from the person that they have voluntarily  
12 provided the self-attestation and other information verifying the  
13 condition; and

14 (c) For persons under eighteen years of age or who have a  
15 developmental disability, the signature of a parent or legal  
16 guardian.

17 (6) A self-attestation or data contained in a self-attestation  
18 provided under this section:

19 (a) Shall not be disclosed;

20 (b) Is for the confidential use of the director, the chief of the  
21 Washington state patrol, and law enforcement and emergency medical  
22 service providers as designated by law; and

23 (c) Is subject to the privacy protections of the driver's privacy  
24 protection act, 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2725.

25 **Sec. 30.** RCW 72.36.030 and 2014 c 184 s 3 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 All of the following persons who have been actual bona fide  
28 residents of this state at the time of their application may be  
29 admitted to a state veterans' home under rules as may be adopted by  
30 the director of the department, unless sufficient facilities and  
31 resources are not available to accommodate these people:

32 (1) (a) All (~~honorably discharged~~) veterans (~~of a branch~~) of  
33 the (~~armed forces~~) uniformed services of the United States or  
34 merchant marines who meet the discharge requirements under RCW  
35 41.04.007 or are eligible for medical care provided by the United  
36 States department of veterans affairs; (b) members of the state  
37 militia disabled while in the line of duty; (c) Filipino World War II  
38 veterans who swore an oath to American authority and who participated  
39 in military engagements with American soldiers; (d) the spouses or

1 the domestic partners of these veterans, merchant marines, and  
2 members of the state militia; and (e) parents any of whose children  
3 died while serving in the armed forces. However, it is required that  
4 the spouse was married to and living with the veteran, or that the  
5 domestic partner was in a domestic partnership and living with the  
6 veteran, three years prior to the date of application for admittance,  
7 or, if married to or in a domestic partnership with him or her since  
8 that date, was also a resident of a state veterans' home in this  
9 state or entitled to admission thereto;

10 (2) The spouses or domestic partners of: (a) All (~~honorably~~  
11 ~~discharged~~) veterans of the United States (~~armed forces~~) uniformed  
12 services with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this  
13 act; (b) merchant marines; and (c) members of the state militia who  
14 were disabled while in the line of duty and who were residents of a  
15 state veterans' home in this state or were entitled to admission to  
16 one of this state's state veteran homes at the time of death.  
17 However, the included spouse or included domestic partner shall not  
18 have been married since the death of his or her spouse or domestic  
19 partner to a person who is not a resident of one of this state's  
20 state veterans' homes or entitled to admission to one of this state's  
21 state veterans' homes; and

22 (3) All applicants for admission to a state veterans' home shall  
23 apply for all federal and state benefits for which they may be  
24 eligible, including medical assistance under chapter 74.09 RCW.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 31.** RCW 73.04.042 (Honorable discharge  
26 recorded—Veterans of Spanish-American War and World War I) and 1923 c  
27 17 s 1 & 1919 c 86 s 1 are each repealed.

28 **Sec. 32.** RCW 73.08.005 and 2017 c 185 s 9 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
31 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

32 (1) "Direct costs" includes those allowable costs that can be  
33 readily assigned to the statutory objectives of this chapter,  
34 consistent with the cost principles promulgated by the federal office  
35 of management and budget in circular No. A-87, dated May 10, 2004.

36 (2) "Family" means the spouse or domestic partner, surviving  
37 spouse, surviving domestic partner, and dependent children of a

1 living or deceased veteran, or a service member who was killed in the  
2 line of duty regardless of the number of days served.

3 (3) "Indigent" means a person who is defined as such by the  
4 county legislative authority using one or more of the following  
5 definitions:

6 (a) Receiving one of the following types of public assistance:  
7 Temporary assistance for needy families, aged, blind, or disabled  
8 assistance benefits, pregnant women assistance benefits, poverty-  
9 related veterans' benefits, food stamps or food stamp benefits  
10 transferred electronically, refugee resettlement benefits, medicaid,  
11 medical care services, or supplemental security income;

12 (b) Receiving an annual income, after taxes, of up to one hundred  
13 fifty percent or less of the current federally established poverty  
14 level, or receiving an annual income not exceeding a higher  
15 qualifying income established by the county legislative authority; or

16 (c) Unable to pay reasonable costs for shelter, food, utilities,  
17 and transportation because his or her available funds are  
18 insufficient.

19 (4) "Indirect costs" includes those allowable costs that are  
20 generally associated with carrying out the statutory objectives of  
21 this chapter, but the identification and tracking of those costs  
22 cannot be readily assigned to a specific statutory objective without  
23 an accounting effort that is disproportionate to the benefit  
24 received. A county legislative authority may allocate allowable  
25 indirect costs to its veterans' assistance fund if it is accomplished  
26 in a manner consistent with the cost principles promulgated by the  
27 federal office of management and budget in circular No. A-87, dated  
28 May 10, 2004.

29 (5) (a) "Veteran" means:

30 (i) A person who served in the active military, naval, or air  
31 service; a member of the women's air forces service pilots during  
32 World War II; a United States documented merchant mariner with  
33 service aboard an oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping  
34 administration; the office of defense transportation, or their  
35 agents, from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946; or a civil  
36 service crewmember with service aboard a United States army transport  
37 service or United States naval transportation service vessel in  
38 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946,  
39 who meets one of the following criteria:

1 (A) Served on active duty for at least one hundred eighty days  
2 and who was released with (~~(an honorable discharge)~~) a qualifying  
3 discharge as defined in section 4 of this act;

4 (B) Received (~~(an honorable or general under honorable~~  
5 ~~characterization of service)~~) a qualifying discharge as defined in  
6 section 4 of this act with a medical reason for separation for a  
7 condition listed as non-existed prior to service, regardless of  
8 number of days served; or

9 (C) Received (~~(an honorable discharge)~~) a qualifying discharge as  
10 defined in section 4 of this act and has received a rating for a  
11 service connected disability from the United States department of  
12 veterans affairs regardless of number of days served;

13 (ii) A current member honorably serving in the armed forces  
14 reserve or national guard who has been activated by presidential call  
15 up for purposes other than training;

16 (iii) A former member of the armed forces reserve or national  
17 guard who has fulfilled his or her initial military service  
18 obligation and was released with (~~(an honorable discharge)~~) a  
19 qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act;

20 (iv) A former member of the armed forces reserve or national  
21 guard who does not have over one hundred seventy-nine days of active  
22 duty service, but meets the federal definition of a veteran having  
23 completed twenty years of service.

24 (b) At the discretion of the county legislative authority and in  
25 consultation with the veterans' advisory board, counties may expand  
26 eligibility for the veterans assistance fund as the county determines  
27 necessary, which may include serving veterans with additional  
28 discharge characterizations.

29 (6) "Veterans' advisory board" means a board established by a  
30 county legislative authority under the authority of RCW 73.08.035.

31 (7) "Veterans' assistance fund" means an account in the custody  
32 of the county auditor, or the chief financial officer in a county  
33 operating under a charter, that is funded by taxes levied under the  
34 authority of RCW 73.08.080.

35 (8) "Veterans' assistance program" means a program approved by  
36 the county legislative authority under the authority of RCW 73.08.010  
37 that is fully or partially funded by the veterans' assistance fund  
38 authorized by RCW 73.08.080.



1       **Sec. 33.** RCW 73.16.010 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 198 s 1 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       In every public department, and upon all public works of the  
4 state, and of any county thereof, (~~honorably discharged~~) soldiers,  
5 sailors, (~~and~~) guardians, marines and other members of the  
6 uniformed services who are veterans of any war of the United States,  
7 or of any military campaign for which a campaign ribbon shall have  
8 been awarded with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of  
9 this act, and their widows or widowers, shall be preferred for  
10 appointment and employment. Age, loss of limb, or other physical  
11 impairment, which does not in fact incapacitate, shall not be deemed  
12 to disqualify them, provided they possess the capacity necessary to  
13 discharge the duties of the position involved: PROVIDED, That spouses  
14 of (~~honorably discharged~~) veterans with a qualifying discharge as  
15 defined in section 4 of this act and who have a service connected  
16 permanent and total disability shall also be preferred for  
17 appointment and employment.

18       **Sec. 34.** RCW 73.16.120 and 2015 c 57 s 2 are each amended to  
19 read as follows:

20       (1) The department of veterans affairs, employment security  
21 department, and department of commerce shall consult local chambers  
22 of commerce, associate development organizations, and businesses to  
23 initiate a demonstration campaign to increase veteran employment.  
24 This campaign may include partnerships with chambers of commerce that  
25 result in business owners sharing, with the local chamber of  
26 commerce, information on the number of veterans employed and the  
27 local chambers of commerce providing this information to the  
28 department of veterans affairs.

29       (2) Participants in the campaign are encouraged to work with the  
30 Washington state military transition council and county veterans'  
31 advisory boards as defined in RCW 73.08.035.

32       (3) Funding for the campaign shall be established from existing  
33 resources.

34       (4) For the purposes of this section, "veteran" (~~means any~~  
35 ~~veteran discharged under honorable conditions~~) has the definition  
36 given in RCW 41.04.007.

37       **Sec. 35.** RCW 77.32.480 and 2016 c 78 s 1 are each amended to  
38 read as follows:

1 (1) Upon written application, a combination fishing license shall  
2 be issued at the reduced rate of five dollars and all hunting  
3 licenses shall be issued at the reduced rate of a youth hunting  
4 license fee for the following individuals:

5 (a) A resident sixty-five years old or older who (~~is an~~  
6 ~~honorably discharged veteran of~~) has a qualifying discharge, as  
7 defined in section 4 of this act, from the United States armed forces  
8 (~~having~~) and has a service-connected disability;

9 (b) A resident who (~~is an honorably discharged veteran of~~) has  
10 a qualifying discharge, as defined in section 4 of this act, from the  
11 United States armed forces (with) and has a thirty percent or more  
12 service-connected disability;

13 (c) A resident with a disability who permanently uses a  
14 wheelchair;

15 (d) A resident who is blind or visually impaired; and

16 (e) A resident with a developmental disability as defined in RCW  
17 71A.10.020 with documentation of the disability certified by a  
18 physician licensed to practice in this state.

19 (2) Upon department verification of eligibility, a nonstate  
20 resident veteran with a disability who otherwise satisfies the  
21 criteria of subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section must be issued  
22 a combination fishing license or any hunting license at the same cost  
23 charged to a nondisabled Washington resident for the same license.

24 (3) Upon written application and department verification, the  
25 following recreational hunting licenses must be issued at no cost to  
26 a resident member of the state guard or national guard, as defined in  
27 RCW 38.04.010, as long as the state guard or national guard member  
28 is: An active full-time state guard or national guard employee; or a  
29 state guard or national guard member whose status requires the state  
30 guard or national guard member to participate in drill training on a  
31 part-time basis:

32 (a) A small game hunting license under RCW 77.32.460(1);

33 (b) A supplemental migratory bird permit under RCW 77.32.350; and

34 (c) A big game hunting license under RCW 77.32.450 (1) and (2).

35 **Sec. 36.** RCW 84.39.020 and 2020 c 139 s 54 are each amended to  
36 read as follows:

37 (1) Each claimant applying for assistance under RCW 84.39.010  
38 must file a claim with the department, on forms prescribed by the  
39 department, no later than thirty days before the tax is due. The

1 department may waive this requirement for good cause shown. The  
2 department must supply forms to the county assessor to allow persons  
3 to apply for the program at the county assessor's office.

4 (2) The claim must designate the property to which the assistance  
5 applies and must include a statement setting forth (a) a list of all  
6 members of the claimant's household, (b) facts establishing the  
7 eligibility under this section, and (c) any other relevant  
8 information required by the rules of the department. The claim must  
9 be signed by the claimant subject to the penalties as provided in  
10 chapter 9A.72 RCW for false swearing. The first claim must include  
11 proof of the claimant's age acceptable to the department.

12 (3) The following documentation must be filed with a claim along  
13 with any other documentation required by the department:

14 (a) The deceased veteran's DD 214 report of separation, or its  
15 equivalent, that must ~~((be under honorable conditions))~~ show  
16 qualification as a veteran under RCW 41.04.005. If the deceased  
17 veteran had an other than honorable characterization of service, the  
18 following is also required: (i) Proof that the decedent was, at any  
19 point, eligible for or received federal department of veterans  
20 affairs monetary benefits; or (ii) proof that the decedent's survivor  
21 is eligible for or has received federal department of veterans  
22 affairs monetary survivor benefits;

23 (b) A copy of the applicant's certificate of marriage to the  
24 deceased;

25 (c) A copy of the deceased veteran's death certificate; and

26 (d) A letter from the United States veterans' administration  
27 certifying that the death of the veteran meets the requirements of  
28 RCW 84.39.010(2).

29 (4) The department of veterans affairs must assist an eligible  
30 widow or widower in the preparation and submission of an application  
31 and the procurement of necessary substantiating documentation.

32 (5) The department must determine if each claimant is eligible  
33 each year. Any applicant aggrieved by the department's denial of  
34 assistance may petition the state board of tax appeals to review the  
35 denial and the board must consider any appeals to determine (a) if  
36 the claimant is entitled to assistance and (b) the amount or portion  
37 thereof.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 37.** The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and  
39 82.32.808 do not apply to this act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 38.**    Sections 25 through 27 of this act take  
2 effect April 1, 2025.

3        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 39.**    Section 24 of this act expires April 1,  
4 2025.

5        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 40.**    If specific funding for the purposes of  
6 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
7 provided by June 30, 2024, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
8 act is null and void.

--- END ---