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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5871**

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**State of Washington****68th Legislature****2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senate State Government & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Lovick, Cleveland, Conway, Dozier, Hasegawa, Hunt, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Muzzall, Nguyen, Nobles, Padden, Pedersen, Randall, Rivers, Saldaña, Shewmake, Stanford, Torres, Trudeau, Valdez, Van De Wege, Wellman, and J. Wilson; by request of Attorney General)

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, 73.16.120, 77.32.480, and  
7 84.39.020; reenacting and amending RCW 41.20.050 and 41.40.170;  
8 adding a new section to chapter 73.04 RCW; adding a new section to  
9 chapter 43.60A RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 2.48.100 and  
10 73.04.042; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration  
11 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, 41.20.050,  
8 or 41.40.170 has received (~~an honorable discharge, is actively~~  
9 ~~serving honorably, or received a discharge for physical reasons with~~  
10 ~~an honorable record~~) a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4  
11 of this act and who meets at least one of the following criteria:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (a) World War I;

33 (b) World War II;

34 (c) The Korean conflict;

35 (d) The Vietnam era, which means:

36 (i) The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May  
37 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of  
38 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 due to: (i) A person's sexual orientation, gender  
26 identity, or gender expression; (ii) statements, consensual sexual  
27 conduct, or consensual acts relating to sexual orientation, gender  
28 identity, or gender expression; or (iii) the disclosure of  
29 statements, conduct, or acts relating to sexual orientation, gender  
30 identity, or gender expression to military officials.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (2) That the applicant, at the time of entering the armed forces  
28 of the United States, was a legal resident of the state of  
29 Washington;

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

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

36 If an applicant under RCW 2.48.070 through 2.48.110 is, at the  
37 time he or she applies for admission to practice law in the state of

1 Washington, no longer in the armed forces of the United States, he or  
2 she may establish the requirements of the proviso in RCW 2.48.070 as  
3 follows:

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

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

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

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

17 The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

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

35 (2) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed  
36 one year to any person, association, or organization operating a  
37 business primarily engaged in the selling of items of food or drink  
38 for consumption on the premises, approved by the commission meeting

1 the requirements of this chapter and any rules and regulations  
2 adopted pursuant thereto permitting said person, association, or  
3 organization to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs and to conduct  
4 social card games as a commercial stimulant in accordance with the  
5 provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted  
6 pursuant thereto and to revoke or suspend said licenses for violation  
7 of any provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations  
8 adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That the commission shall not  
9 deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an effort to  
10 limit the number of licenses to be issued: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the  
11 commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend  
12 licenses subject to final action by the commission;

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

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

30 (5) To establish a schedule of annual license fees for carrying  
31 on specific gambling activities upon the premises, and for such other  
32 activities as may be licensed by the commission, which fees shall  
33 provide to the commission not less than an amount of money adequate  
34 to cover all costs incurred by the commission relative to licensing  
35 under this chapter and the enforcement by the commission of the  
36 provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted pursuant  
37 thereto: PROVIDED, That all licensing fees shall be submitted with an  
38 application therefor and such portion of said fee as the commission  
39 may determine, based upon its cost of processing and investigation,  
40 shall be retained by the commission upon the withdrawal or denial of

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

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

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



1 department of justice-federal bureau of investigation. The commission  
2 must establish rules to delineate which persons named on the  
3 application are subject to national criminal history background  
4 checks. In identifying these persons, the commission must take into  
5 consideration the nature, character, size, and scope of the gambling  
6 activities requested by the persons making such applications;

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

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

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

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

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

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

38 (14) In accordance with RCW 9.46.080, to adopt such rules and  
39 regulations as are deemed necessary to carry out the purposes and  
40 provisions of this chapter. All rules and regulations shall be

1 adopted pursuant to the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05  
2 RCW;

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

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

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

24 (17) To authorize, require, and issue for a period not to exceed  
25 one year such licenses or permits, for which the commission may by  
26 rule provide, to any person to work for any operator of any gambling  
27 activity authorized by this chapter in connection with that activity,  
28 or any manufacturer, supplier, or distributor of devices for those  
29 activities in connection with such business. The commission may  
30 authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses  
31 subject to final action by the commission. The commission shall not  
32 require that persons working solely as volunteers in an authorized  
33 activity conducted by a bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit  
34 organization, who receive no compensation of any kind for any purpose  
35 from that organization, and who have no managerial or supervisory  
36 responsibility in connection with that activity, be licensed to do  
37 such work. The commission may require that licensees employing such  
38 unlicensed volunteers submit to the commission periodically a list of  
39 the names, addresses, and dates of birth of the volunteers. If any  
40 volunteer is not approved by the commission, the commission may

1 require that the licensee not allow that person to work in connection  
2 with the licensed activity;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (1) School districts shall issue diplomas to students signifying  
33 graduation from high school upon the students' satisfactory  
34 completion of all local and state graduation requirements. Districts  
35 shall grant students the option of receiving a final transcript in  
36 addition to the regular diploma.

37 (2) School districts or schools of attendance shall establish  
38 policies and procedures to notify senior students of the transcript  
39 option and shall direct students to indicate their decisions in a

1 timely manner. School districts shall make appropriate provisions to  
2 assure that students who choose to receive a copy of their final  
3 transcript shall receive such transcript after graduation.

4 (3) (a) A school district may issue a high school diploma to a  
5 person who:

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

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

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

15 (c) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt a form  
16 for a diploma application to be used by a veteran or a person acting  
17 on behalf of a deceased veteran under this subsection (3). The  
18 superintendent of public instruction shall specify what constitutes  
19 acceptable evidence of eligibility for a diploma.

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

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

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

27 (iii) Died after matriculating into high school.

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

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

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

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

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

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

3       Whenever used in this chapter:

4       (1) The term "institution" shall mean a public university,  
5 college, or community or technical college within the state of  
6 Washington.

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

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

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

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

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

32       (e) Any person who has completed and obtained a high school  
33 diploma, or a person who has received the equivalent of a diploma;  
34 who has continuously lived in the state of Washington for at least a  
35 year primarily for purposes other than postsecondary education before  
36 the individual is admitted to an institution of higher education  
37 under subsection (1) of this section; and who provides to the  
38 institution an affidavit indicating that the individual will file an  
39 application to become a permanent resident at the earliest  
40 opportunity the individual is eligible to do so and a willingness to

1 engage in any other activities necessary to acquire citizenship,  
2 including but not limited to citizenship or civics review courses;

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

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

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

17 (i) Entered service as a Washington resident;

18 (ii) Has maintained a Washington domicile; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

38 (ii) Enrolled in an institution and remains continuously enrolled  
39 at the institution; or

1 (iii) Enrolled in an institution of higher education in  
2 Washington within three years from the date of reassignment out-of-  
3 state;

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

9 (l) A student who has separated or retired from the uniformed  
10 services with at least 10 years of (~~honorable~~) service and at least  
11 90 days of active duty service, with a qualifying discharge as  
12 defined in section 4 of this act, and who enters an institution of  
13 higher education in Washington within three years of the date of  
14 separation or retirement;

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

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

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

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

33 (q) A student who meets the requirements of RCW 28B.15.0131 or  
34 28B.15.0139: PROVIDED, That a nonresident student enrolled for more  
35 than six hours per semester or quarter shall be considered as  
36 attending for primarily educational purposes, and for tuition and fee  
37 paying purposes only such period of enrollment shall not be counted  
38 toward the establishment of a bona fide domicile of one year in this  
39 state unless such student proves that the student has in fact

1 established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily for purposes  
2 other than educational;

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

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

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

17 (ii) Enrolled in an institution and remains continuously enrolled  
18 at the institution.

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

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

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

36 (a) A student attending an institution with the aid of financial  
37 assistance provided by another state or governmental unit or agency  
38 thereof, such nonresidency continuing for one year after the  
39 completion of such semester or quarter. This condition shall not  
40 apply to students from Columbia, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, or



1 Washington county, Oregon participating in the border county pilot  
2 project under RCW 28B.76.685, 28B.76.690, and 28B.15.0139.

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

7 (i) A lawful permanent resident;

8 (ii) A temporary resident;

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

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

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

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

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

31 (6) The term "dependent" shall mean a person who is not  
32 financially independent. Factors to be considered in determining  
33 whether a person is financially independent shall be set forth in  
34 rules adopted by the student achievement council and shall include,  
35 but not be limited to, the state and federal income tax returns of  
36 the person and/or the student's parents or legal guardian filed for  
37 the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made and  
38 such other evidence as the council may require.

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

1 (a) The armed forces of the United States government; or  
2 (b) The Washington national guard; or  
3 (c) The coast guard, merchant mariners, or other nonmilitary  
4 organization when such service is recognized by the United States  
5 government as equivalent to service in the armed forces.

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

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

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

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

- 31 (a) A legitimate child;
- 32 (b) An adopted child;
- 33 (c) A stepchild;
- 34 (d) A foster child; and
- 35 (e) A legal dependent.

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

38 (1) The legislature finds that active military and naval  
39 veterans, reserve military and naval veterans, and national guard

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

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

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

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

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

34 (b) A child and the surviving spouse or surviving domestic  
35 partner of an eligible veteran or national guard member who lost his  
36 or her life as a result of serving in active federal military or  
37 naval service.

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

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

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

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

9 (I) The date of the death;

10 (II) The date of total disability;

11 (III) Federal determination of service-connected death or total  
12 disability; or

13 (IV) Federal determination of prisoner of war or missing in  
14 action status.

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

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

20 (d) Tuition waivers for graduate students are not required for  
21 those who qualify under subsection (4) of this section but are  
22 encouraged.

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

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

32 (6) Required waivers of all tuition and fees under subsection (4)  
33 of this section shall not affect permissive waivers of tuition and  
34 fees under subsection (3) of this section.

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

38 (8) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
39 section.

1 (a) "Child" means a biological child, adopted child, or  
2 stepchild.

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

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

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

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

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

36 (a) Total number of waivers;

37 (b) Total amount of tuition waived;

38 (c) Total amount of fees waived;

39 (d) Average amount of tuition and fees waived per recipient;

1 (e) Recipient demographic data that is disaggregated by distinct  
2 ethnic categories within racial subgroups; and

3 (f) Recipient income level, to the extent possible.

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

6 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
7 this section apply throughout this chapter.

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

10 (2) "Certificate" or "certificated" does not include a limited or  
11 conditioned certificate.

12 (3) "Certificated employee" has the definition in RCW  
13 28A.150.203. "Certificated employee" does not include a paraeducator.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 (12) "Shortage area" means an endorsement or geographic area as  
3 defined by the Washington professional educator standards board, in  
4 consultation with the office of the superintendent of public  
5 instruction, with a shortage of certificated employees. "Shortage  
6 area" must be defined biennially using quantitative and qualitative  
7 measures.

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

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

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

26 (2) Five percent to a veteran who did not serve during a period  
27 of war or in an armed conflict as defined in RCW 41.04.005 or is  
28 receiving military retirement. The percentage shall be added to the  
29 passing 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 (3) Five percent to a veteran who was called to active military  
33 service from employment with the state or any of its political  
34 subdivisions or municipal corporations. The percentage shall be added  
35 to promotional examinations until the first promotion only;

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

37 (a) Upon release from active military service with ~~((an honorable~~  
38 ~~discharge or a discharge for medical reasons with an honorable~~

1 ~~record, where applicable))~~ a qualifying discharge as defined in  
2 section 4 of this act; or

3 (b) Upon receipt of a United States department of defense  
4 discharge document DD form 214, NGB form 22, or their equivalent or  
5 successor discharge paperwork, that characterizes his or her  
6 ((service)) discharge as ((honorable)) a qualifying discharge as  
7 defined in section 4 of this act.

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

10 (1) The director shall adopt rules, consistent with the purposes  
11 and provisions of this chapter and with the best standards of  
12 personnel administration, regarding the basis and procedures to be  
13 followed for:

14 (a) The reduction, dismissal, suspension, or demotion of an  
15 employee;

16 (b) Training and career development;

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

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

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

36 (d) Transfers;

37 (e) Promotional preferences;

38 (f) Sick leaves and vacations;

39 (g) Hours of work;



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

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

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

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

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

21 (m) Providing for veteran's preference as required by existing  
22 statutes, with recognition of preference in regard to layoffs and  
23 subsequent reemployment for veterans and their surviving spouses by  
24 giving such eligible veterans and their surviving spouses additional  
25 credit in computing their seniority by adding to their unbroken state  
26 service, as defined by the director, the veteran's service in the  
27 military not to exceed five years. For the purposes of this section,  
28 "veteran" means any person who has one or more years of active  
29 military service in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
30 States or who has less than one year's service and is discharged with  
31 a disability incurred in the line of duty or is discharged at the  
32 convenience of the government and who, upon termination of such  
33 service, has received (~~(an honorable discharge, a discharge for  
34 physical reasons with an honorable record, or a release from active  
35 military service with evidence of service other than that for which  
36 an undesirable, bad conduct, or dishonorable discharge shall be  
37 given))~~ a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act.

38 However, the surviving spouse of a veteran is entitled to the  
39 benefits of this section regardless of the veteran's length of active  
40 military service. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" does

1 not include any person who has voluntarily retired with twenty or  
2 more years of active military service and whose military retirement  
3 pay is in excess of five hundred dollars per month.

4 (2) Rules adopted under this section by the director shall  
5 provide for local administration and management by the institutions  
6 of higher education and related boards, subject to periodic audit and  
7 review by the director.

8 (3) Rules adopted by the director under this section may be  
9 superseded by the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement  
10 negotiated under RCW 41.80.001 and 41.80.010 through 41.80.130. The  
11 supersession of such rules shall only affect employees in the  
12 respective collective bargaining units.

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

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

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

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

35 (1) To make suitable rules and regulations not inconsistent with  
36 the provisions of this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall  
37 provide in detail the manner in which examinations may be held, and  
38 appointments, promotions, transfers, reinstatements, demotions,  
39 suspensions and discharges shall be made, and may also provide for

1 any other matters connected with the general subject of personnel  
2 administration, and which may be considered desirable to further  
3 carry out the general purposes of this chapter, or which may be found  
4 to be in the interest of good personnel administration. Such rules  
5 and regulations may be changed from time to time. The rules and  
6 regulations and any amendments thereof shall be printed, mimeographed  
7 or multigraphed for free public distribution. Such rules and  
8 regulations may be changed from time to time.

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

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

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

1 subpoenas issued hereunder shall have the same force and effect as  
2 the oaths administered by a superior court judge in his or her  
3 judicial capacity; and the failure upon the part of any person so  
4 subpoenaed to comply with the provisions of this section shall be  
5 deemed a violation of this chapter, and punishable as such.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 They shall appoint a secretary and chief examiner, who shall keep  
10 the records for the commission, preserve all reports made to it,  
11 superintend and keep a record of all examinations held under its  
12 direction, and perform such other duties as the commission may  
13 prescribe.

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

25 (1) To make suitable rules and regulations not inconsistent with  
26 the provisions of this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall  
27 provide in detail the manner in which examinations may be held, and  
28 appointments, promotions, transfers, reinstatements, demotions,  
29 suspensions, and discharges shall be made, and may also provide for  
30 any other matters connected with the general subject of personnel  
31 administration, and which may be considered desirable to further  
32 carry out the general purposes of this chapter, or which may be found  
33 to be in the interest of good personnel administration. Such rules  
34 and regulations may be changed from time to time. The rules and  
35 regulations and any amendments thereof shall be printed,  
36 mimeographed, or multigraphed for free public distribution. Such  
37 rules and regulations may be changed from time to time;

38 (2) All tests shall be practical, and shall consist only of  
39 subjects which will fairly determine the capacity of persons examined

1 to perform duties of the position to which appointment is to be made,  
2 and may include tests of physical fitness and/or of manual skill;

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

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

36 (5) Hearings and Investigations: How conducted. All hearings and  
37 investigations before the commission, or designated commissioner, or  
38 chief examiner, shall be governed by this chapter and by rules of  
39 practice and procedure to be adopted by the commission, and in the  
40 conduct thereof neither the commission, nor designated commissioner

1 shall be bound by the technical rules of evidence. No informality in  
2 any proceedings or hearing, or in the manner of taking testimony  
3 before the commission or designated commissioner, shall invalidate  
4 any order, decision, rule or regulation made, approved or confirmed  
5 by the commission: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That no order, decision, rule  
6 or regulation made by any designated commissioner conducting any  
7 hearing or investigation alone shall be of any force or effect  
8 whatsoever unless and until concurred in by at least one of the other  
9 two members;

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

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

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

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

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

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

35 Any person who was a member of the fire department and within the  
36 provisions of chapter 50, Laws of 1909, as amended, at the time he or  
37 she entered, and (~~who is a veteran,~~) is an honorably discharged  
38 veteran or received a discharge for physical reasons with an  
39 honorable record from the armed forces, and whose military service

1 was during a period of war as defined in RCW 41.04.005, shall have  
2 added and accredited to his or her period of employment as a  
3 firefighter as computed under this chapter his or her period of war  
4 service in such armed forces upon payment by him or her of his or her  
5 contribution for the period of his or her absence, at the rate  
6 provided by chapter 50, Laws of 1909, as amended, for other members:  
7 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, Such accredited service shall not in any case  
8 exceed five years.

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

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

32 Any person who has served in a position higher than the rank of  
33 captain for a minimum of three years may elect to retire at such  
34 higher position and receive for his or her lifetime a pension equal  
35 to fifty percent of the amount of the salary at any time hereafter  
36 attached to the position held by such retired member for the year  
37 preceding his or her date of retirement: PROVIDED, That such person  
38 make the said election to retire at a higher position by September 1,  
39 1969 and at the time of making the said election, pay into the relief



1 and pension fund in addition to the contribution required by RCW  
2 41.20.130: (1) an amount equal to six percent of that portion of all  
3 monthly salaries previously received upon which a sum equal to six  
4 percent has not been previously deducted and paid into the police  
5 relief and pension fund; (2) and such person agrees to continue  
6 paying into the police relief and pension fund until the date of  
7 retirement, in addition to the contributions required by RCW  
8 41.20.130, an amount equal to six percent of that portion of monthly  
9 salary upon which a six percent contribution is not currently  
10 deducted pursuant to RCW 41.20.130.

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

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

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

30 (2) If he or she has applied or shall apply for reinstatement of  
31 employment, within one year from termination of the military service,  
32 and is refused employment for reasons beyond his or her control, he  
33 or she shall, upon resumption of service within ten years have such  
34 service credited to him or her.

35 (3) In any event, after completing twenty-five years of  
36 creditable service, any member may have service in the armed forces  
37 credited to him or her as a member whether or not he or she left the  
38 employ of an employer to enter the armed service: PROVIDED, That in  
39 no instance, described in this section, shall military service in

1 excess of five years be credited: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That in each  
2 instance the member must restore all withdrawn accumulated  
3 contributions, which restoration must be completed within five years  
4 of membership service following the first resumption of employment or  
5 complete twenty-five years of creditable service: AND PROVIDED  
6 FURTHER, That this section will not apply to any individual, not  
7 ((a)) an honorably discharged veteran ((within the meaning of)) or  
8 veteran who received a physical discharge from the armed forces with  
9 an honorable record. Furthermore, an individual must prove that their  
10 military service was during a period of war as defined in RCW  
11 41.04.005.

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

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

23 (5) The surviving spouse or eligible child or children of a  
24 member who left the employ of an employer to enter the uniformed  
25 services of the United States and died while serving in the uniformed  
26 services may, on behalf of the deceased member, apply for retirement  
27 system service credit under this subsection up to the date of the  
28 member's death in the uniformed services. The department shall  
29 establish the deceased member's service credit if the surviving  
30 spouse or eligible child or children:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (2) If requested by the licensee, the license of a spouse or  
24 registered domestic partner of a service member in the United States  
25 armed forces, including the United States public health service  
26 commissioned corps, if valid and in force and effect at the time the  
27 service member is deployed or stationed in a location outside  
28 Washington state, must be placed in inactive military spouse or  
29 registered domestic partner status so long as such service continues,  
30 unless sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided  
31 by law. The director, board, or commission shall return to active  
32 status the license of every such person who applies for activation  
33 within six months after returning to Washington state, upon payment  
34 of the current renewal fee and meeting the current renewal conditions  
35 of the respective license.

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

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

3       (1) The department shall:

4       (a) Maintain a current list of certified veteran-owned  
5 businesses; and

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

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

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

11       (i) A (~~veteran as defined as every~~) person who at the time he  
12 or she seeks certification (~~(has received a discharge with an~~  
13 ~~honorable characterization or received a discharge for medical~~  
14 ~~reasons with an honorable record, where applicable, and who has~~  
15 ~~served in at least one of the capacities listed)~~) is a veteran as  
16 defined in RCW 41.04.007;

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

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

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

26       (3) To participate in the linked deposit program under chapter  
27 43.86A RCW, a veteran-owned business qualified under this section  
28 must be certified by the department as a business:

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

33       (b) That is organized for profit and performing a commercially  
34 useful function; and

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

37       (4) The department shall create a logo for the purpose of  
38 identifying veteran-owned businesses to the public. The department  
39 shall put the logo on an adhesive sticker or decal suitable for

1 display in a business window and distribute the stickers or decals to  
2 veteran-owned businesses listed with the department.

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

5 (b) The department must notify the state treasurer of veteran-  
6 owned businesses who have participated in the linked deposit program  
7 and are no longer certified under this section. The written  
8 notification to the state treasurer must contain information  
9 regarding the reasons for the decertification and information on  
10 financing provided to the veteran-owned business under RCW  
11 43.86A.060.

12 (6) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this  
13 section.

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

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

29 (2) If requested by the licensee, the license of a spouse or  
30 registered domestic partner of a service member in the United States  
31 armed forces, including the United States public health service  
32 commissioned corps, if valid and in force and effect at the time the  
33 service member is deployed or stationed in a location outside  
34 Washington state, must be placed in inactive military spouse or  
35 registered domestic partner status so long as such service continues,  
36 unless sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided  
37 by law. The secretary shall return to active status the license of  
38 every such person who applies for renewal thereof within six months  
39 after the service member is (~~honorably~~) discharged from service

1 with a qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of this act, or  
2 sooner if requested by the licensee, upon payment of the renewal fee  
3 applicable to the then current year or other license period.

4 (3) The secretary may adopt any rules necessary to implement this  
5 section.

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

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

- 10 (a) Air force;
- 11 (b) Army;
- 12 (c) Coast guard;
- 13 (d) Marine corps;
- 14 (e) National guard; or
- 15 (f) Navy.

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

- 17 (a) Active duty military personnel;
- 18 (b) Families of veterans and service members;
- 19 (c) Members of the national guard;
- 20 (d) Reservists; or
- 21 (e) Veterans, as defined in RCW 41.04.007.

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

- 24 (a) DD-214 or discharge papers if the applicant is a veteran;
- 25 (b) A military identification card or retired military  
26 identification card; or
- 27 (c) A declaration of fact attesting to the applicant's  
28 eligibility as required under this section.

29 (4) For the purposes of this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 (a) Be a resident of this state;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 (4) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates may be issued to the  
35 surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Pearl Harbor survivor who  
36 met the requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving  
37 spouse or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the  
38 surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries  
39 or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the

1 special license plates to the department within fifteen days and  
2 apply for regular license plates or another type of special license  
3 plate.

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

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

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

20 (a) Be a resident of this state;

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

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

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

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

30 (2) Purple Heart license plates must be issued without the  
31 payment of any vehicle license fees, license plate fees, motor  
32 vehicle excise taxes, and special license plate fees for one motor  
33 vehicle. For other motor vehicles, qualified applicants may purchase  
34 Purple Heart license plates for the fee required under RCW  
35 46.17.220(~~(+17)~~) (18) and all other fees and taxes required by law  
36 for registering the motor vehicle.

37 (3) Purple Heart license plates may be issued to the surviving  
38 spouse or domestic partner of a Purple Heart recipient who met the  
39 requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving spouse



1 or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the  
2 surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries  
3 or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the  
4 special license plates to the department within fifteen days and  
5 apply for regular license plates or another type of special license  
6 plate.

7 (4) A Purple Heart license plate or plates may be transferred  
8 from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Purple  
9 Heart recipient or the surviving spouse or domestic partner as  
10 described in subsection (3) of this section upon application to the  
11 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by  
12 the director.

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

15 (1) Veterans (~~((discharged under honorable conditions (veterans)))~~)  
16 and (~~((individuals serving on active duty in the United States armed~~  
17 ~~forces ()))~~ active duty military personnel ~~((+))~~) may purchase a veterans  
18 remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military service award  
19 emblem. The emblem is to be displayed on license plates in the manner  
20 described by the department, existing vehicular registration  
21 procedures, and current laws.

22 (2) For purposes of this section:

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

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

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

29 ~~((+3))~~ (4) The following campaign ribbon remembrance emblems are  
30 available:

31 (a) World War I victory medal;

32 (b) World War II Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal;

33 (c) World War II European-African Middle East campaign medal;

34 (d) World War II American campaign medal;

35 (e) Korean service medal;

36 (f) Vietnam service medal;

37 (g) Armed forces expeditionary medal awarded after 1958; and

38 (h) Southwest Asia medal.

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

3 ~~((4))~~ (5) The following military service award emblems are  
4 available:

- 5 (a) Distinguished Service Cross;
- 6 (b) Navy Cross;
- 7 (c) Air Force Cross;
- 8 (d) Silver Star medal; and
- 9 (e) Bronze Star medal.

10 ~~((5))~~ (6) Veterans or active duty military personnel requesting  
11 a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military  
12 service award emblem or emblems must:

- 13 (a) Pay a prescribed fee set by the department; and
- 14 (b) Show proof of eligibility through:

15 (i) Providing a DD-214 or discharge papers, as well as necessary  
16 documentation to prove eligibility as a veteran with an other than  
17 honorable characterization of service, if a veteran;

18 (ii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a campaign ribbon if an  
19 individual serving on military active duty;

20 (iii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a military service  
21 award; or

22 (iv) Attesting in a notarized affidavit of their eligibility as  
23 required under this section.

24 ~~((6))~~ (7) Veterans or active duty military personnel who  
25 purchase a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or  
26 military service award emblem must be the legal or registered owner  
27 of the vehicle on which the emblem is to be displayed.

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

30 A Washington state motor vehicle driver's license issued to any  
31 service member if valid and in force and effect while such person is  
32 serving in the armed forces, shall remain in full force and effect so  
33 long as such service continues unless the same is sooner suspended,  
34 canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law and for not to  
35 exceed ninety days following the date on which the holder of such  
36 driver's license is ~~((honorably))~~ separated from service in the armed  
37 forces of the United States. A Washington state driver's license  
38 issued to the spouse or dependent child of such service member

1 likewise remains in full force and effect if the person is residing  
2 with the service member.

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

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

10 (1) The department, upon receipt of a fee of seventy-two dollars,  
11 unless the driver's license is issued for a period other than eight  
12 years, in which case the fee shall be nine dollars for each year that  
13 the license is issued, which includes the fee for the required  
14 photograph, shall issue to every qualifying applicant a driver's  
15 license. A driver's license issued to a person under the age of  
16 eighteen is an intermediate license, subject to the restrictions  
17 imposed under RCW 46.20.075, until the person reaches the age of  
18 eighteen.

19 (2) The license must include:

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

21 (b) The name of record;

22 (c) Date of birth;

23 (d) Washington residence address;

24 (e) Photograph;

25 (f) A brief description of the licensee;

26 (g) Either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a  
27 space upon which the licensee shall write the licensee's usual  
28 signature with pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license;

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 (iii) A national guard state-issued report of separation and  
12 military service, NGB Form 22, 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 active duty or reserve service in the  
18 national guard and qualifying discharge as defined in section 4 of  
19 this act; or

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

24 (b) The department may permit a veteran, as defined in RCW  
25 41.04.007, (~~or an individual who otherwise meets the criteria of RCW~~  
26 ~~41.04.007 but who has received a general discharge under honorable~~  
27 ~~conditions,~~) to submit (~~an~~) alternate forms of documentation to  
28 apply to obtain a veteran designation on a driver's license (~~as~~  
29 ~~specified by rule, that requires a discharge status of "honorable" or~~  
30 ~~"general under honorable conditions" and that establishes the~~  
31 ~~person's service as required under RCW 41.04.007).~~

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

36 (a) Self-attestation that the individual:

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

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

1 (iii) Has a developmental disability as defined in RCW  
2 71A.10.020;

3 (b) A statement from the person that they have voluntarily  
4 provided the self-attestation and other information verifying the  
5 condition; and

6 (c) For persons under eighteen years of age or who have a  
7 developmental disability, the signature of a parent or legal  
8 guardian.

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

11 (a) Shall not be disclosed;

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

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

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

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

24 (1) (a) All (~~honorably discharged~~) veterans (~~of a branch~~) of  
25 the (~~armed forces~~) uniformed services of the United States or  
26 merchant marines who meet the discharge requirements under RCW  
27 41.04.007 or are eligible for medical care provided by the United  
28 States department of veterans affairs; (b) members of the state  
29 militia disabled while in the line of duty; (c) Filipino World War II  
30 veterans who swore an oath to American authority and who participated  
31 in military engagements with American soldiers; (d) the spouses or  
32 the domestic partners of these veterans, merchant marines, and  
33 members of the state militia; and (e) parents any of whose children  
34 died while serving in the armed forces. However, it is required that  
35 the spouse was married to and living with the veteran, or that the  
36 domestic partner was in a domestic partnership and living with the  
37 veteran, three years prior to the date of application for admittance,  
38 or, if married to or in a domestic partnership with him or her since

1 that date, was also a resident of a state veterans' home in this  
2 state or entitled to admission thereto;

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

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

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 31.** RCW 73.04.042 (Honorable discharge  
19 recorded—Veterans of Spanish-American War and World War I) and 1923 c  
20 17 s 1 & 1919 c 86 s 1 are each repealed.

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

23 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
24 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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

29 (2) "Family" means the spouse or domestic partner, surviving  
30 spouse, surviving domestic partner, and dependent children of a  
31 living or deceased veteran, or a service member who was killed in the  
32 line of duty regardless of the number of days served.

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

36 (a) Receiving one of the following types of public assistance:  
37 Temporary assistance for needy families, aged, blind, or disabled  
38 assistance benefits, pregnant women assistance benefits, poverty-

1 related veterans' benefits, food stamps or food stamp benefits  
2 transferred electronically, refugee resettlement benefits, medicaid,  
3 medical care services, or supplemental security income;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (b) At the discretion of the county legislative authority and in  
17 consultation with the veterans' advisory board, counties may expand  
18 eligibility for the veterans assistance fund as the county determines  
19 necessary, which may include serving veterans with additional  
20 discharge characterizations.

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

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

27 (8) "Veterans' assistance program" means a program approved by  
28 the county legislative authority under the authority of RCW 73.08.010  
29 that is fully or partially funded by the veterans' assistance fund  
30 authorized by RCW 73.08.080.

31 **Sec. 33.** RCW 73.16.120 and 2015 c 57 s 2 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (1) The department of veterans affairs, employment security  
34 department, and department of commerce shall consult local chambers  
35 of commerce, associate development organizations, and businesses to  
36 initiate a demonstration campaign to increase veteran employment.  
37 This campaign may include partnerships with chambers of commerce that  
38 result in business owners sharing, with the local chamber of  
39 commerce, information on the number of veterans employed and the



1 local chambers of commerce providing this information to the  
2 department of veterans affairs.

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

6 (3) Funding for the campaign shall be established from existing  
7 resources.

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

11 **Sec. 34.** RCW 77.32.480 and 2016 c 78 s 1 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

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

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

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

25 (c) A resident with a disability who permanently uses a  
26 wheelchair;

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

28 (e) A resident with a developmental disability as defined in RCW  
29 71A.10.020 with documentation of the disability certified by a  
30 physician licensed to practice in this state.

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

36 (3) Upon written application and department verification, the  
37 following recreational hunting licenses must be issued at no cost to  
38 a resident member of the state guard or national guard, as defined in  
39 RCW 38.04.010, as long as the state guard or national guard member

1 is: An active full-time state guard or national guard employee; or a  
2 state guard or national guard member whose status requires the state  
3 guard or national guard member to participate in drill training on a  
4 part-time basis:

- 5 (a) A small game hunting license under RCW 77.32.460(1);
- 6 (b) A supplemental migratory bird permit under RCW 77.32.350; and
- 7 (c) A big game hunting license under RCW 77.32.450 (1) and (2).

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

10 (1) Each claimant applying for assistance under RCW 84.39.010  
11 must file a claim with the department, on forms prescribed by the  
12 department, no later than thirty days before the tax is due. The  
13 department may waive this requirement for good cause shown. The  
14 department must supply forms to the county assessor to allow persons  
15 to apply for the program at the county assessor's office.

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

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

26 (a) The deceased veteran's DD 214 report of separation, or its  
27 equivalent, that must ~~((be under honorable conditions))~~ show  
28 qualification as a veteran under RCW 41.04.005. If the deceased  
29 veteran had an other than honorable characterization of service, the  
30 following is also required: (i) Proof that the decedent was, at any  
31 point, eligible for or received federal department of veterans  
32 affairs monetary benefits; or (ii) proof that the decedent's survivor  
33 is eligible for or has received federal department of veterans  
34 affairs monetary survivor benefits;

35 (b) A copy of the applicant's certificate of marriage to the  
36 deceased;

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

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

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

7 (5) The department must determine if each claimant is eligible  
8 each year. Any applicant aggrieved by the department's denial of  
9 assistance may petition the state board of tax appeals to review the  
10 denial and the board must consider any appeals to determine (a) if  
11 the claimant is entitled to assistance and (b) the amount or portion  
12 thereof.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 36.** The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and  
14 82.32.808 do not apply to this act.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 37.** Sections 25 through 27 of this act take  
16 effect April 1, 2025.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 38.** Section 24 of this act expires April 1,  
18 2025.

--- END ---