

2021 Veteran/Military Related Legislation Still in Committees

***** UPDATED 04/20/2021 *****

House:

- **H.47:** This bill proposes to provide a member of the National Guard serving on state active duty with the same leave rights and job protections that he or she is entitled to for service under federal authority. This bill also proposes to provide State employees with up to 15 days of paid military leave per year. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.71:** This bill proposes to exempt U.S. military retirement pay from the Vermont personal income tax. [Any amount of pay] *Assigned to Ways and Means.*
- **H.146:** This bill proposes to exempt disability and pension income for veterans who are permanently and totally disabled from the calculation of household income for the purpose of determining the income sensitivity property tax credit. *Assigned to Ways and Means.*
- **H.147:** This bill proposes to exempt the State active duty subsistence and quarters allowance paid to members of the National Guard from income tax in Vermont. *Assigned to Ways and Means.*
- **H.149:** This bill proposes to amend the statutes related to the National Guard to better reflect the current structure and mission of the Vermont National Guard. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.* Passed out of the House and it looks like it is going to pass out of the Senate – maybe this week.
- **H.176:** This bill proposes to end the exemption for fraternal organizations and veterans' clubs from the requirement for nonprofit organizations to file quarterly reports of break-open ticket sales. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.185:** This bill proposes to exempt a portion of U.S. military retirement pay from Vermont personal income tax. This bill would also exempt all U.S. military survivor benefit income received by the surviving spouse of a deceased service member. [First \$25,000 of pay up to \$35,000, over \$35,000 no exemption for any retirement income] *Assigned to Ways and Means.*
- **H.188:** This bill proposes to establish minimum qualifications for candidates for Adjutant and Inspector General; to transfer authority for the appointment of the Adjutant and Inspector General from the General Assembly to the Governor; to create a board to review and recommend to the Governor candidates for Adjutant and Inspector General; and to create an exemption from the income tax for military retirement pay. [1/2 of retirement pay] *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.207:** This bill proposes to establish minimum qualifications for candidates to become the Adjutant General. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.219:** This bill proposes to create a student loan repayment program for members of the Vermont National Guard. *Assigned to Education.*

- **H.242:** This bill proposes to require that intake forms used by the Departments for Children and Families; of Vermont Health Access; and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living seek information as to whether an applicant or family member has ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces. *Assigned to Human Services.*
- **H.295:** This bill proposes to establish minimum qualifications for an individual to serve as the Adjutant and Inspector General, to create an Adjutant and Inspector General Nominating Board to nominate qualified candidates for Adjutant and Inspector General to the General Assembly, and to move the election of the Adjutant and Inspector General to the second year of each biennium. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.328:** This bill proposes to allow a child whose parent is transferring to Vermont on military orders to be remotely enrolled in public schools. This bill also provides that the spouse and dependent child of any person who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and stationed in this State pursuant to military orders be considered residents for in-state tuition purposes and do not lose that status if the member transfers out of State on military orders. *Assigned to Education.*
- **H.335:** This bill proposes to waive 50 percent of the registration fee for certain motor vehicles upon proof that the registered owner or co-owner is a veteran who received a discharge under other than dishonorable conditions. This bill also requires the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs to develop and maintain a database of veterans in Vermont but indicates that any information that is collected is exempt from public inspection and copying. *Assigned to Transportation.*
- **H.339:** This bill proposes to create the Vermont Silver Rose Veterans' Service Certificate to honor veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange while on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. *Assigned to G,H,&MA.*
- **H.373:** This bill proposes to exempt military retirement pay from Vermont's personal income tax and recruit retiring military veterans to this State. *Assigned to Ways and Means.*
- **H.378:** This bill proposes to add law enforcement officers employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs to the definition of "certified federal law enforcement officer." *Assigned to Judiciary.*
- **H.418:** This bill proposes to reduce the cost of fishing, hunting, and combination hunting and fishing licenses by 25 percent for all Vermont residents who are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. *Assigned to Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.*

Senate:

- **S.12:** This bill proposes to exempt U.S. military retirement pay from Vermont personal income tax. The exemption would be phased in over two years, so that in taxable year 2021, half of federally taxable military retirement pay would be exempted. Starting in taxable year 2022, all taxable military retirement pay would be exempted from Vermont personal income tax. *Assigned to Finance.*

- **S.53:** Originally a Senate bill to exempt feminine hygiene products from sales tax, the House amended it to propose a tax on cloud computing services was added, as well as a provision for a military retirement pay exemption for the first \$10,000.00. *It was returned to the Senate Finance Committee in mid-April.*

Sec. 14. 32 V.S.A. § 5811(21)(B) is amended to read: (B) Decreased by the following items of income (to the extent such income is included in federal adjusted gross income): * * * (iii) recapture of State and local income tax deductions not taken against Vermont income tax; and (iv) the portion of federally taxable benefits received under the federal Social Security Act that is required to be excluded under section 5830e of this chapter; and (v) [Reserved.] (vi) the first \$10,000.00 of federally taxable U.S. military retirement pay; and * * *

Sec. 15. 32 V.S.A. § 5813(y) is added to read: (y) The statutory purpose of the exclusion of the first \$10,000.00 of federally taxable U.S. military retirement pay in subdivision 5811(21)(B)(vi) of this title is to recognize the military service of Vermonters who derive part of their income from military retirement pay.

- **S.104:** This bill also provides that the spouse and dependent child of any person who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and stationed in this State pursuant to military orders be considered a resident for in-state tuition purposes and does not lose that status if the member transfers out of State on military orders. *Assigned to Education.*
- **S.105:** This bill proposes to permit a school district to qualify for the designation of a Purple Star Campus. *Assigned to Education.*
- **S.116:** This bill proposes to require that intake forms used by the Departments for Children and Families; of Vermont Health Access; and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living seek information as to whether an applicant or family member has ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces. *Assigned to Health and Welfare.*