



Military and Veterans

During the 2022 legislative session, the General Assembly considered several pieces of legislation concerning veterans and the military including creating an information clearinghouse; allowing veterans to audit college courses, honoring Gold Star families, and several resolutions.

Veterans

Two bills that were passed during the 2022 session created access to direct services for veterans.

House Bill 22-1407 requires an institution of higher education that has a policy allowing a person to audit a course for no credit to permit a veteran to audit courses for no credit if space is available. Schools may charge a fee of no more than \$10 per audited course. Institutions without a course audit policy are encouraged to allow veterans to audit courses.

House Bill 22-1219 requires the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to contract with a third-party vendor to create and maintain an online internet resource portal for veterans to access an information clearinghouse with support, services, and assistance for veterans and their families. The portal must allow veterans to maintain a secure and personalized health record system and coordinate their healthcare, community, and support services. The portal must comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and state accessibility standards.

Gold Star Families

House Concurrent Resolution 22-1003 refers a constitutional amendment to voters at the November 2022 statewide election. If approved, the amendment expands eligibility for the homestead property tax exemption to the surviving spouses of United States Armed Forces service members who died in the line of duty or veterans whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease. The homestead exemption reduces property taxes owed on a qualifying homeowner's primary residence.

House Joint Resolution 22-1011 honors gold star families.

Resolutions

The General Assembly adopted numerous resolutions that honor military members and their families. *House Joint Resolution 22-1006* recognizes military and veterans missing in action and prisoners of war appreciation day. *House Joint Resolution 22-1007* recognizes African-American veterans. *House Joint Resolution 22-1009* honors Colorado veterans on the seventy-seventh anniversary of the end of World War II. *House Joint Resolution 22-1010* recognizes and remembers military veterans in Colorado who served in the Vietnam War.