

Veteran and Military Related Bills – Final 2009

Bill	Status	Title	Original Sponsor	Summary
HB 1034	C 34 L 09	Armory rental or lease	Morrell	State-owned armories may be rented or leased for public or private uses, not just casual civil purposes, sports or theatricals. Renters shall be charged for the rental based on the schedule of rental charges prepared by the Adjutant General.
SHB 1036	C 378 L 09	Military justice code	Kelley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies the Washington Code of Military Justice (WCMJ) to members of the WA State Guard and WA National Guard committing military offenses, whether or not they are on "duty status." • Specifies when the military has jurisdiction over certain offenses. Specifies procedures and authority of the different courts-martial. Adds new offenses to the WCMJ and clarifies the offense of drunk driving. • Makes other changes to criminal procedures under the WCMJ.
EHB 1049	C 35 L 09	Veterans' relief	Rolfes	Expands the definition of "veteran" for purposes of veterans' relief programs to include current members of the National Guard and Armed Forces Reserves who have been deployed to serve in an armed conflict.
HB 1050	C 248 L 09	Veterans' scoring criteria	Kelley	Removes the requirement that public employees called to active military service must serve for at least one year in active status to claim a scoring preference on promotional exams.
HB 1121	C 71 L 09	State flag account	Rodne	Creates the Washington State Flag Account to provide for donations of Washington flags to Washington's military personnel.
HB 1156	C 192 L 09	Alternative route program	Anderson	Creates a preference in the alternative route teacher certification programs for veterans and National Guard members.
SHB 1170	C 502 L 09	Parenting plan modification	McCoy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses changes to custody decrees and parenting plans when a parent is unable to exercise residential time or visitation with a child because of the parent's military duties. • Provides that any change in custody as a result of the custodial parent's military duties shall be temporary. • Allows a court to delegate the residential time or visitation of a military parent to a person other than a parent during the military parent's absence. • Requires the court to hold expedited hearings and allow testimony by electronic means when the military parent cannot appear in person.
HB 1478	C 159 L 09	Deployed military personnel	Orcutt	Deployed military personnel are able to renew their vehicle registrations and have the registration year start on the date that the expired license is renewed so that the renewed license will be useful for an entire 12-month period. To be eligible, the registered owner must: be a member of the United States armed forces; have been stationed outside of Washington under military orders during the prior vehicle registration year; and provide the DOL with a copy of the military orders.
HB 1548	C 205 L 09	Military service credit	Bailey	For state employees:

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminates the requirement that members make contributions for interruptive military service upon return to state service if that service is during a period of war. • Refunds past member contributions for interruptive military service, if that military service was rendered during a period of war. • Provides that where a member died during interruptive military service during a time of war, the survivor does not have to pay for the cost of the military service credit.
HB 1551	C 226 L 09	Survivor benefits	Conway	For state employees: Provides that the survivors of members that leave state service and die while honorably serving in the National Guard or military reserves during a period of war are entitled to the same survivor benefits as if the member died while in the line of duty of their retirement-system covered employment.
ESHB 1906	C 3 L 09	Unemployment compensation	Conway	Provides for a temporary increase in unemployment benefits by adding \$45 to the weekly benefit amount, and making \$155 the minimum amount payable weekly. Expands eligibility for the training benefits program to low-wage workers, military personnel and National Guard members, and persons who are disabled. Eliminates restrictions on the shared work program on the number of an employer's employees that must be enrolled, and the number of weeks that such employees may receive benefits. Provides for non-charging of the additional \$45 and training benefits.
HJM 4005	H Filed Sec/St	Nisei veterans postage stamp	Santos	Petitions the President of the United States, the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives to ensure that the U.S. Postal Service issue a postage stamp to commemorate the service of Nisei veterans in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.
HR 4625 and SR 8632	Adopted	Partnership DVA & Higher Ed	Flannigan and Jacobsen	Recognizes the partnership between the department of veterans affairs and the higher education community.
HR 4650 and SR 8649	Adopted	Opportunities for veterans	Sells Swecker	Reaffirms the senate's commitment to preferred employment opportunities for veterans.
SB 5008	C 269 L 09	Hunting licenses/military	Hewitt	Members of the United States military are exempt from the firearm skills portion of any hunter education course completed over the Internet.
SSB 5009	C 50 L 09	Experience rating accounts	Marr	Provides that employers may request non-charging of unemployment benefits paid to former employees who were hired to replace employees called to federal active military service.
SSB 5030	C 21 L 09	Militia	Kilmer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes the Adjutant General, subject to the orders of the Governor, the Commander of the Washington National Guard. • Eliminates the requirement that the Adjutant General create a separate Bureau of Records. • Updates and streamlines the powers and duties of the Adjutant General.

SSB 5035	C 22 L 09	Veterans' access to services	Hobbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDVA must create a five-year plan to identify all veterans in the state and identify veterans in the state as the veteran population changes. • The WDVA must identify improved referral methods and improved communication tools so veterans can be directed to available state and federal aid programs. • Savings and costs must be itemized and potential legislative needs discussed. • The report is due January 1, 2010.
SSB 5248	C 380 L 09	Military children	Hobbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enacts the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Compact) with certain amendments. • Amends certain current education laws to achieve consistency with the Compact. • Requires the State Council, which is created by the Compact, to review implementation of the Compact and, by December 1, 2014, to recommend to the Legislature whether the state should continue membership in the Compact.
SSB 5270	C 369 L 09	Voter registration	McDermott	Among other changes: The definition of "service voter" is expanded to include any elector of the state of Washington who is a member of a reserve component of the armed forces.
SSB 5481	C 56 L 09	Veterans' burials	Marr	Any deceased veteran or veteran's dependant that is left unclaimed for a period of 90 days or longer, and is certified by the DVA as eligible for internment at a federal or state veterans' cemetery, may be transferred from the person or entity in possession of such human remains to the custody of the DVA. The person or entity transferring the human remains to the DVA is immune from any liability associated with such transfer. The state, its employees, and agents are also immune from any liability related to the transfer of such human remains to the DVA.
SB 5720	C 316 L 09	Tuition waivers/stepchildren	Hewitt	The term "child" is defined as a biological child, adopted child, or stepchild.
SB 5739	C 59 L 09	Concealed pistol license	King	The \$10 penalty, for renewal of a CPL after expiration, does not apply to members of the armed forces who are serving outside the state of Washington when his or her CPL expires. Application for renewal must be made within 90 days of returning to Washington State.

- Bills that have a "C and L" in the status column have been signed into law by the Governor and are now considered to be a Chapter in the Laws of 2009 for the purpose of filing in the Session Law Table. Most bills take effect 90 days after the end of session.
- Bills that have been "Del to Gov" or Delivered to the Governor are awaiting action by the Governor.