

**2021 State Government and Veterans and Military Affairs Omnibus Bill**  
**AGREEMENT ON SAME AND SIMILAR POLICY ITEMS: Veterans and Military Affairs House, Art. 7 and Senate, Art 5**  
**May 8, 2021**

<b>House – HF No. 1952, 3<sup>rd</sup> Engrossment</b>				<b>SAME OR SIMILAR</b>	<b>Senate – SF No. 1831, 2<sup>nd</sup> Engrossment</b>	
<b>R</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Summary</b>		<b>Section</b>	<b>Summary</b>
	<b>Article 7 – Military and Veterans Policy</b>					<b>Article 5 - Veterans and Military Affairs Policy</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>Veterans Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day</b>	<b>1</b>	Same		<b>Section 1 (10.578)</b>	Clarifies the name of the Veterans Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day and requires the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs (hereinafter commissioner) to coordinate activities on the day of observance in October to raise awareness of, and promote the prevention of, veteran suicides.
<b>R1</b>	<b>Veterans affairs publicity rep. authorized</b>	<b>2</b>	Same		<b>Section 2 (15.057)</b>	Adds the Department of Veterans Affairs to the list of agencies that are exempt from the prohibition on using funds to pay the salary or expenses of a publicity representative.
<b>R1</b>	<b>Adjutant general</b>	<b>3</b>	Same		<b>Section 4 (190.07)</b>	<p>Makes changes to the adjutant general section of the military forces chapter of law.</p> <p><b>Subdivision 1</b> requires the governor to appoint an adjutant general within 120 days of vacancy, strikes language restricting candidates to members of the National Guard in this state, and requires that the adjutant general hold the rank of colonel or above.</p> <p><b>Subdivision 2</b> requires that the adjutant general be promoted, if necessary, to the rank of major general on the date of the governor’s appointment.</p> <p><b>Subdivision 3</b> specifies that the adjutant general serves a single term of seven years.</p>

					<p><b>Subdivision 4</b> is a new subdivision specifying protocols when there is a vacancy. The governor may appoint a person as acting adjutant general, and if the governor does not appoint a person, the deputy adjutant general becomes the temporary adjutant general.</p>
<b>R2</b>	<b>Veterans stable housing initiative</b>	<b>4</b>	Same	<b>Section 5 (196.081)</b>	<p>Allows the commissioner to establish a veterans stable housing initiative, to provide resources and support to homeless veterans. Private data on individuals maintained in the Homeless Veteran Registry may be shared with members of the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness and Homeless Veteran Registry partners to expedite the coordination of homeless efforts.</p>
<b>R2-R8</b>	<b>Minnesota GI bill</b>	<b>5 to 8</b>	Same except technical differences; staff recommends house	<b>Sections 6 to 9 (197.791, subs. 4, 5, 5a, 5b)</b>	<p>Makes technical changes and restructures subdivisions for clarity related to Minnesota GI postsecondary educational assistance, apprenticeship and on-the-job training benefits, and other professional and educational benefits.</p>
<b>R8</b>	<b>Veterans supplemental programs</b>	<b>9</b>	Same except technical differences; staff recommends senate	<b>Section 10 (198.006)</b>	<p>Amends supplemental programs for veterans.</p> <p><b>New paragraph (b)</b> allows the commissioner to work with federal, state, local, and private entities to expand the availability of dental services for veterans home residents.</p> <p><b>New paragraph (c)</b> allows the commissioner to provide adult day care center programs and collect fees from program participants. The commissioner is authorized to apply for and accept federal funding for purposes of providing adult day care center programs.</p>