

Subject Military Affairs

Authors Norris

Analyst Colbey Sullivan

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## Overview

This is the 2024 military affairs policy bill for the Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy of the Minnesota House of Representatives.

## Summary

| Section | Description |
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| 1 | <p><b>Criminal justice agencies.</b></p> <p>Adds the Minnesota National Guard to a list of “criminal justice agencies” for purposes of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13).</p>   |
| 2 | <p><b>Veterans or military affairs data coded elsewhere.</b></p> <p>Amends the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act to create a cross-reference to the statute amended in section 7 of the bill.</p>  |
| 3 | <p><b>Contracts; agreements.</b></p> <p>Provides that notwithstanding state law to the contrary, the adjutant general is the state’s contracting authority and officer for any program or project financed in part or in whole by the federal government. Under current law, the adjutant general’s authority in this area is limited to construction, improvement, or maintenance programs or projects when prescribed or required under federal law.</p> |
| 4 | <p><b>Rental of military facilities.</b></p> <p>Provides the adjutant general authority to establish terms and rent out any Minnesota National Guard building or facility. Under current law, the adjutant general’s authority in this area is limited to buildings and facilities at Camp Ripley.</p>   |

| Section | Description  |
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| 5       | <p><b>Exemption from process; transfer to civil authorities.</b></p> <p>Moves to a different section of statute an existing provision regarding criminal offenses committed by a service member, and updates and clarifies the language of this provision (see section 7 for the current language).</p>  |
| 6       | <p><b>Referral bonus program.</b></p> <p>Authorizes the adjutant general to establish a program to provide a bonus for referrals that lead to enlistment in or commissioning into the Minnesota National Guard. The adjutant general would determine eligibility criteria and a payment schedule and recoup any bonus paid to an ineligible person. Requires the adjutant general to report specified information to the legislature if the adjutant general implements a referral bonus program.</p>  |
| 7       | <p><b>Service member data.</b></p> <p>Broadens the scope of data on a service member that may be made available to the Minnesota National Guard upon request of the state judge advocate. Data available to the Guard under this section would include any data classified as either confidential data on individuals or private data on individuals and maintained by any government entity. This section also removes an existing limitation that the data must relate to matters of military justice and discipline.</p>  |
| 8       | <p><b>Unauthorized presence on military installations.</b></p> <p>Establishes misdemeanor and felony crimes for intentional, unauthorized presence at any campground, military reservation, armory, installation, or facility owned or controlled by the state or federal government for military purposes. Under current law, these crimes apply only to intentional, unauthorized presence at Camp Ripley. Removes the requirement that to constitute a felony, the person must know that entry or presence in an area restricted for weapon firing or another hazardous military activity creates a risk of death, bodily harm, or serious property damage.</p> |



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