

Subject Veterans
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Overview

This is the 2024 veterans 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>Veteran's preference.</p> <p>Expands veteran's preference in state government hiring to include soldiers in active service who the state hiring authority anticipates will be discharged or released under honorable conditions within the next 120 days, as evidenced by written certification from the soldier's branch of the armed forces. Expands hiring preference for disabled veterans to include soldiers in active service who satisfy the same criteria and also establish that they have a service-connected disability. Requires the state hiring authority to verify that the job applicant has achieved veteran status before the applicant's appointment begins.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Forfeiture of benefits.</p> <p>Provides that a veteran or former service member, as well as their spouse and dependents, would lose eligibility for any state veterans benefit authorized under Minnesota Statutes, chapters 196-198, if the veteran or former service member loses their entitlement to federal veterans benefits under United States Code, Title 38, Chapter 61. Chapter 61 provides for the forfeiture of federal veterans benefits if a person is found guilty of fraud, treason, or subversive activities.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Creation.</p> <p>Similar to section 1, but applicable to local government hiring, this section expands veteran's preference to include certain soldiers in active service who will be discharged or released under honorable conditions within the next 120 days.</p> |

Section	Description
4	<p>Disabled veteran; definitions.</p> <p>Similar to section 1, but applicable to local government hiring, this section expands disabled veteran’s preference to include certain soldiers in active service who will be discharged or released under honorable conditions within the next 120 days and who can demonstrate that they have a service-connected disability.</p>
5	<p>Permissive preference for veterans in private employment.</p> <p>Similar to sections 1 and 3, this section expands veteran’s preference to allow private sector employers to give preference to certain soldiers in active service who will be discharged or released under honorable conditions within the next 120 days. Unlike state and local government hiring, where veteran’s preference is mandatory, under current law and this bill, veteran’s preference is allowed but not required for private sector jobs.</p>
6	<p>Administrators.</p> <p>Provides that any veterans home administrator appointed by the commissioner of veterans affairs would no longer serve at the pleasure of, or report directly to, the commissioner.</p>
7	<p>Planning new veterans cemeteries.</p> <p>Requires the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs to identify a suitable site and plan for a new state veterans cemetery in northwestern Minnesota.</p>



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