

**Subject** Minnesota Human Rights Act; Veteran and Military Status

**Authors** Bliss and others

**Analyst** Mary Davis

**Date** February 25, 2026

## Summary

This bill adds the term “veteran and military status” to the list of protected classes in the Minnesota Human Rights Act. It provides a definition for veteran and military status which includes active and reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Guard, as well as veterans who served previously in those branches and veterans of the Secret War in Laos as defined by section 197.448.

The protection for the status of veteran would prevent discrimination:

- in employment and labor organizations;
- during real property purchases and in housing rental situations;
- at places of public accommodations; and
- in education, including colleges and universities.

This bill would add a section to the Minnesota Human Rights Act to clarify that the addition of a veteran to the act does not supersede, nullify, or repeal any laws that allow or require a veteran preference.