

# 2021 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

## Summary: Veteran & Military Bills

### 1. Appreciation of Veterans and Military

[HB1120](#): **Deer Hunting for 100% Disabled Veteran** (Representative Matthew Ruby)

- i. 100% Disabled Veterans start season 5 days before Youth season
- ii. White Tailed deer
- iii. PASSED House- **FAILED Senate**

From: Constituent of Representative Ruby

[HB1143](#): **Patriotism Projects-Elementary Students** (Representative Dennis Johnson)

- iv. Elementary students must complete one patriotic project
- v. Allow Veteran organizations to donate to projects
- vi. PASSED House- **FAILED Senate**

From: Constituent of Representative Johnson

[HB1178](#): **Deer License Lottery for Members of Armed Forces** (Representative Skroch)

- vii. Allow members of the Armed Forces to apply for and be issued a lottery license for deer
- viii. **FAILED House**

From: Constituent of Representative Skroch

### 2. Budget

[SB2007](#): **ND Veterans Home (Director)**

- i. **Added:**
  1. \$131,500 for thermostat replacements
  2. \$25,000 to defray & allow cost of resident absence over 72 hours
- ii. **Removed:**
  1. 6 Full Time Staff Positions
- iii. **Allowed:**
  1. ND Veterans Home to Contract ITD services outside of ND *ITD*.
  2. Use of Melvin Norgaard funds for Memorial Garden \$200,000

**2025: Budget: ND Department of Veterans Affairs (Commissioner)**

iv. **Added:**

1. FTE position (Added \$18,910 to current Temporary Loan and Grant position and authorized as Full Time Employee).
2. \$70,000 for a Part-Time Temporary Veterans Benefits Specialist.

v. **Removed:**

1. -\$5,000 for Stand Down Grant. \$0 available.
2. -\$4,500 admin funds for T&CVSO training. \$25,000 available.

vi. **Restored:**

1. \$60,000 of the \$137,500 General Fund salary supplanted by Federal Highly Rural Transportation Grant Funding.

vii. **Maintained:**

1. 7 Full Time Employees
2. PTSD dog Grant funding of \$50,000
3. DAV van funding of \$18,800
4. Authority for NDDVA to accept and expend Federal grant funds for restoration of Veterans Home Cemetery

**3. Burial & Memorial**

None

**4. Education**

**HB1107: In State Tuition** (Representative Pyle)

**i. Add as resident student for in-state tuition rates:**

1. Member, spouse and dependents of National Guard and Reserve and active-duty armed forces in **any** state not just North Dakota units
2. Dependent of veteran regardless of GI Bill chapter or eligibility

From: ND Veteran/Military Affairs Advisory Committee:

**HB1125: ND Tuition Waiver** (Representative Pyle)

**ii. Make ND Tuition Waiver available for a veterans Spouse, Widow, or Widower under NDCC 15-10-18.2 if:**

- a. The Spouse, Widow or Widower or child's other parent
  - i. has been a resident of ND or was a resident of ND at time of death or veterans 100% disability determination or;
  - ii. has been a resident of ND for 5 years immediately preceding enrollment at ND funded institution

**iii. Change years for a veteran to become resident**

- a. From 10 years to five (5) years immediately preceding enrollment
  - i. (Match the 5-year requirement of a surviving spouse)

From: ND Veteran/Military Affairs Advisory Committee

[SB 2225](#): **Tuition Waiver for Dependents of Disabled Veterans** (Senator Dever)

- iv. Change the waiver from dependents of 100% disabled veteran to 50% disabled veteran'
- v. **FAILED Senate**

From: Constituent of Senator Dever

## 5. **Employment**

[HB 1278](#): **Military Spouse Unemployment Benefits** (Representative Mock)

- i. Allows unemployment benefits for a military spouse who VOLUNTARILY left most recent employment to relocate due to permanent change of station orders of military-connected spouse

From: Military top 10, NDNG, TF Mind, Commissioner, ACOVA, NDVLC

[SB 2175](#): **Military member and spouse licensure portability, access and compacts** (Senator Meyer)

- ii. Updates ND Century Code to allow better licensing and application process

From: Military top 10, NDNG, TF Mind, Commissioner, ACOVA, NDVLC

[HB 1166](#): **Licensure Compact** (Representative Tomen)

- iii. Add verbiage of a foreign practitioner who is a resident of state to the military members and spouse section.
- iv. PASSED House, **FAILED Senate**
- v. Issue addressed in SB 2175

From: Military top 10, NDNG, TF Mind, Commissioner, ACOVA, NDVLC

## 6. **Financial**

[HB1263](#): **Veteran Charitable Gaming net proceeds use.** (Representative Hanson, Karla Rose)

- i. **Add:**
  - 1. **Property Taxes**
  - 2. **Special assessments**
- ii. **Removes:**
  - 1. **Personal Property**

From: AMVETS-Fargo

[HB1211](#): **Post War Trust Fund clearing account (410) and Veterans Aid Loan account (368)** Better interest rates. (Representative Magrum)

- iii. Allows ND State Treasurer to invest these funds with the highest CD rates available. to include CD's outside the Bank of North Dakota.

From: Commissioner

[SB2213](#): *Property Tax Credit* (Senator Dever)

- iv. Increase taxable valuation on the first \$6,750 to \$8,100.
  - 1. Taxable value of \$6,750 = True and Full Value of \$150,000
  - 2. Taxable value of \$8,100 = True and Full Value of \$180,000

From: Constituent of Senator Dever

**7. Health & Wellbeing**

[HB1015](#): *PASS FUND* funding. Guardianship/conservator funds

- i. \$1,980,000 funding increased to \$2,450,000 (\$2.5Million need)

From: OMB Budget

[HB 1354](#): *Guardianship Program* (Representative Skroch)

- ii. Create a commission and staff for guardianship services
- iii. **FAILED House**

From: Interim committee study of needs

**8. Housing**

NONE

**9. Law/Policy Change**

NONE

**10. Legal Services**

[SB2246](#): *Veterans Docket*- (Senator Meyer, Rep Mary Schneider)

- i. Add a "Veterans Treatment Docket" to the NDCC under Drug Court.
- ii. Veterans and Service member Treatment Docket is a district court supervised docket
- iii. A district court may serve veterans or military service members from other districts in ND
- iv. \$145,247 State funding

**11. Military Families Top Ten Key Issues**

- a. Enhanced Military Spouse License Portability [SB2175](#) (Sen. Meyer)

- b. Military Spouse Occupational Licensure Access [SB 2175](#) (Sen. Meyer)
  - c. Licensing Compacts [SB2175](#)& [HB1166](#)
  - d. Military Spouse Teacher Certification: ND Good on this
  - e. Purple Star School Program: No Legislative action needed. DPI policy
  - f. Advance Enrollment. Non legislative action being taken.
  - g. Virtual School Enrollment. Non legislative action being taken.
  - h. In-State Tuition Continuity [HB1107](#) (Rep Pyle)
  - i. Child Abuse and Neglect Identification and Reporting. H.H.S. addressed this in policy not legislatively
  - j. Ask the Question Campaign. Done
- From: DSLO Key Issues: <https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/#key-issues-report>

## **12. National Guard Specific**

[SB2116](#): Use of Deadly Force to protect nuclear weapons

[SB2117](#): \$15,000 Death Gratuity for National Guard members on State Active Duty

[SB2114](#): Trust Fund use: update the dates and add Camp Grafton training center

[SB2115](#): Uniform Code of Military Justice House Cleaning bill – Update state law with federal law

[HB1016](#): NDNG Budget Provide key programs/projects...

- Camp Grafton Expansion-
- ND Veterans Cemetery Spouse and Dependent Burial Costs-Maintained in Budget
- NDNG Upgrade Bade and HVAC System
- Fund Statewide Maintenance Projects
- Department of Emergency Services (DES) Operations (Replace expired emergency supplies
- Air/Army Operations & Maintenance (Reduction)
- ND Veterans Cemetery (Reduction)
- Fargo Readiness Center Start Up and Utilities
- Dickinson Readiness Center-Authority
- Line of Communication Bridge Training Site-Authority
- ND Military Museum-Fundraising Authority