

## WDVA Legislative Updates

### Veteran / Military Related Bill Tracking as of Feb 5, 2010

The Legislature has reached the first of several Cut-Off Deadlines for any bills to make it through the 2010 Session. By Feb 9, bills must have been passed from their house of origin policy and fiscal committees in order to keep moving in the process. Below is a list of bills still eligible for consideration and a summary of the bill.

Bill	Status	Title	Original Sponsor
<a href="#">EHB 1876</a>	H 3rd Reading	Disabled veterans/donations	<a href="#">McCune</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Allows vehicle owners to make a voluntary donation of \$5 when renewing vehicle registration. Funds must be used by WDVA for activities such as, procuring durable medical equipment, mobility enhancing equipment, emergency home or vehicle repair, or emergency food or emergency shelter. Veterans who are experiencing a financial hardship and do not qualify for other federal or state veterans programs and services must receive first priority.</p>			
<a href="#">SHB 2403</a>	S GovtOp & Elect	Military leave/pub employees	<a href="#">Morrell</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Expands the use of military leave to include state active duty. Clarifies that military leave may only be charged for the days the person is normally scheduled to work for the state or local government.</p>			
<a href="#">HB 2483</a>	S GovtOp & Elect	Overseas and service voters	<a href="#">Hurst</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Allows overseas or service voters to request, receive, and return ballots by fax or electronic mail. Requires ballot instructions to include contact information for the county auditor's office so that the voter may confirm the ballot was received. Allows overseas or service voters to register to vote, request ballots, or transmit ballots on forms provided by the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.</p>			
<a href="#">HB 2720</a>	H Rules R	Washington soldiers' home	<a href="#">Armstrong</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Authorizes WDVA to work with public or private entities on a veterans housing project at the Garfield Barracks and to extend a long term lease of up to 75 years.</p>			
<a href="#">HB 2922</a>	H Cap Budget	Veterans housing assistance	<a href="#">McCune</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Expands eligibility criteria for Housing Trust Fund monies to include projects that provide housing for veterans of the United States Armed Forces with 50 percent service-connected disability.</p>			
<a href="#">HB 2973</a>	H Rules R	Resident students/military	<a href="#">Orcutt</a>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Includes, in the definition of "resident student," a student who resides in Washington and is on active military duty stationed in one of nine Oregon border counties. Also adds a student who resides in</p>			

Washington and is the spouse or dependent of a person who resides in Washington and is on active military duty stationed in an Oregon border county to the definition of "resident student."

SHJM  
4004

S Transportation

State route 110 name

Van De Wege

**Summary:** Requests that the Washington State Transportation Commission name State Route 110 in Clallam County the "Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial Highway."

HJM  
4025

H Rules R

Honoring Vietnam veterans

O'Brien

**Summary:** Urges the executive branch and the legislative authorities of each county to promote a statewide effort to honor and support the American veterans and Republic of South Vietnam veterans of the Vietnam War.

SSB  
5041

S Rules 2G

Veteran-owned businesses

Kilmer

**Summary:** Creates a statewide program to increase state procurement contracts with veteran-owned businesses.

SB 6196

H SG TribalAff

Military leave/pub employees

Hobbs

See Summary for HB 2403

SB 6238

S Rules 2G

Overseas and service voters

Hobbs

See Summary for HB 2483

SSB  
6266

S Rules 2

Service member civil relief

Hobbs

**Summary:** Expands the definition of military service to include a National Guard Member who is called to state active duty by the Governor for more than 30 consecutive days.

SSB  
6342

S 2nd Reading

Washington soldiers' home

Swecker

See Summary for HB 2720

SB 6365

S 2nd Reading

Motor vehicle emissions exem

Swecker

**Summary:** Exempts vehicles from emissions standards while a member of the armed services is stationed outside this state.

SB 6528

S Rules 2

Washington soldiers' home

Roach

**Summary:** WDVA may receive donations, including gifts, grants, and endowments from public or private sources for the use and benefit of the Soldiers Home.