

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2544**

66th Legislature  
2020 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 13, 2020  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

---

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 6, 2020  
Yeas 49 Nays 0

---

**President of the Senate**

Approved

---

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2544** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

---

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2544**

---

Passed Legislature - 2020 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      66th Legislature                      2020 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Paul, Dufault, Leavitt, Graham, Smith, Volz, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/20.

1            AN ACT Relating to the definition of veteran; amending RCW  
2 41.04.005; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.04.005 and 2018 c 61 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) As used in this section and RCW (~~(41.04.005,)~~) 41.16.220,  
7 41.20.050, and 41.40.170 "veteran" includes every person, who at the  
8 time he or she seeks the benefits of this section and RCW  
9 (~~(41.04.005,)~~) 41.16.220, 41.20.050, or 41.40.170 has received an  
10 honorable discharge, is actively serving honorably, or received a  
11 discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record and who meets  
12 at least one of the following criteria:

13            (a) The person has served between World War I and World War II or  
14 during any period of war, as defined in subsection (2) of this  
15 section, as either:

16            (i) A member in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
17 States;

18            (ii) A member of the women's air forces service pilots;

19            (iii) A U.S. documented merchant mariner with service aboard an  
20 oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping administration, the

1 office of defense transportation, or their agents, from December 7,  
2 1941, through December 31, 1946; or  
3 (iv) A civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army  
4 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in  
5 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946;  
6 or  
7 (b) The person has received the armed forces expeditionary medal,  
8 or marine corps and navy expeditionary medal, for opposed action on  
9 foreign soil, for service:  
10 (i) In any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or  
11 (ii) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots.  
12 (2) A "period of war" includes:  
13 (a) World War I;  
14 (b) World War II;  
15 (c) The Korean conflict;  
16 (d) The Vietnam era, which means:  
17 (i) The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May  
18 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of  
19 Vietnam during that period;  
20 (ii) The period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7,  
21 1975;  
22 (e) The Persian Gulf War, which was the period beginning August  
23 2, 1990, and ending on February 28, 1991, or ending on November 30,  
24 1995, if the participant was awarded a campaign badge or medal for  
25 such period;  
26 (f) The period beginning on the date of any future declaration of  
27 war by the congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential  
28 proclamation or concurrent resolution of the congress; and  
29 (g) (~~The following~~) Any armed conflicts, if the participant was  
30 awarded the respective campaign badge or medal, or if the service was  
31 such that a campaign badge or medal would have been awarded, except  
32 that the member already received a campaign badge or medal for a  
33 prior deployment during that same conflict(~~(: The crisis in Lebanon;~~  
34 ~~the invasion of Grenada; Panama, Operation Just Cause; Somalia,~~  
35 ~~Operation Restore Hope; Haiti, Operation Uphold Democracy; Bosnia,~~  
36 ~~Operation Joint Endeavor; Operation Noble Eagle; southern or central~~  
37 ~~Asia, Operation Enduring Freedom; Persian Gulf, Operation Iraqi~~  
38 ~~Freedom; Iraq and Syria, Operation Inherent Resolve; and Afghanistan,~~  
39 ~~Operation Freedom's Sentinel)~~).

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) The select committee on pension policy  
2 and the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' plan 2 retirement  
3 board, with the assistance of the office of the state actuary, the  
4 department of retirement systems, the Washington state military  
5 department, and the Washington state department of veterans affairs  
6 shall study the provision of interruptive military service credit to  
7 members of the Washington state retirement systems. The study shall  
8 examine the current and projected eligibility of members and retirees  
9 for military service credit, and associated costs. In particular, the  
10 study must examine the difference in service credit and cost that  
11 would be generated by expanding free military service credit to all  
12 members who received an expeditionary medal, but not a campaign  
13 medal.

14        (2) The department of retirement systems, the office of the state  
15 actuary, the Washington state military department, and the Washington  
16 state department of veterans' affairs must provide information or  
17 conduct research as needed by the select committee on pension policy  
18 or the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' plan 2 retirement  
19 board.

20        (3) To encourage consistency among the treatment of military  
21 service among the Washington state retirement systems, the select  
22 committee on pension policy and the law enforcement officers' and  
23 firefighters' plan 2 retirement board must communicate their  
24 preliminary recommendations to each other prior to October 30, 2020,  
25 and, considering the preliminary recommendations of the other body,  
26 issue final reports containing recommendations and analysis of the  
27 potential cost of those recommendations to the appropriate committees  
28 of the legislature by January 2, 2021.

--- END ---