## **Legislative Status Report**

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Condition: {Session Year: 2025} {Category: Veterans}

Senate Bill No. 71

BY Felag, Ciccone, Tikoian, Britto, Lauria

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Provides protection and prevents the unethical, improper conduct and the collection of fees, by anyone advising or assisting a veteran filing a claim for disability benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs, except as authorized by federal law.)

{LC238/1}

01/23/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

Senate Bill No. 72

BY Felag, Raptakis, Ciccone, Tikoian, Britto

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION FEES (Disabled veteran license plate may be transferred to veterans' spouse or issued to veteran or veterans spouse.)

{LC236/1}

01/23/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/24/2025 Meeting postponed (02/26/2025)

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/05/2025)

03/05/2025 Committee recommends passage

03/07/2025 Placed on Senate Calendar (03/13/2025)

03/13/2025 Senate read and passed

03/14/2025 Referred to House Veterans Affairs

Senate Bill No. 75

BY Felag, Raptakis, Ciccone, Tikoian, Britto, Lauria

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- CERTIFICATES OF TITLE AND SECURITY INTERESTS -- VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION CHECKS (Waives the fees for vehicle identification number inspections for veterans, including active duty military personnel and members of the National Guard and military reserves.)

{LC510/1}

01/23/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/24/2025 Meeting postponed (02/26/2025)

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/05/2025)

03/05/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

Senate Bill No. 76

BY Gu, Felag

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Removes the requirement that applicants for a Bronze Star Medal license plate, pay a registration fee or transfer charge.)

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{LC196/1}

01/23/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/05/2025)

03/05/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

Senate Bill No. 98

BY Valverde, DiMario

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides tax credits or the equivalent assessment dollars to veterans, gold star parents, visually impaired persons and the elderly.)

{LC640/1}

01/31/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

Senate Bill No. 341

**BY** Raptakis, Felag, LaMountain, Patalano, Sosnowski, McKenney, Burke, Appollonio, Thompson, Tikoian **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides a full property tax exemption for a veteran's real property used as the veteran's primary residence.)

{LC1381/1}

02/21/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

Senate Bill No. 438

**BY** Raptakis, Felag, Sosnowski, Morgan, Murray, de la Cruz, Thompson, Bissaillon, Britto, McKenney **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides a full property tax exemption for a veteran's real property used as the veteran's primary residence.)

{LC1805/1}

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

Senate Bill No. 444

BY DiPalma, Tikoian, Sosnowski, Dimitri, Appollonio

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE CREDITS (Allows members of the retirement system who served in the national guard or reserves and qualify as veterans, to purchase retirement service credits based on their years of service in the National guard or reserves.)

{LC1225/1}

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

Senate Bill No. 456

BY Paolino, Quezada, Pearson, Acosta, Ciccone, LaMountain, Mack

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND HOUSING AND MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (Establishes a revolving fund to assist first-time home buyers and veterans to purchase a home in Rhode Island by issuing grants of up to forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).)

{LC367/1}

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/04/2025)

03/04/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

Senate Bill No. <u>625</u>

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(Veterans Services)

BY Felag, LaMountain, Raptakis, Lauria, Thompson, Ciccone

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Adds "space force" to the branches of the military included in various sections of general law regarding the veterans home, veterans cemetery and the power of armed forces officers to take acknowledgements.)

{LC1323/1}

03/06/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

Senate Bill No. 720

BY Ciccone, Bissaillon, Felag, Mack, Quezada, Vargas

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.)

{LC1618/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/20/2025)

03/20/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

Senate Bill No. 879

BY Lawson, LaMountain, Gallo, Lauria, Britto

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION FEES (Includes an individual who is seventy-five (75) years of age or older with a combined disability rating of fifty percent (50%), as eligible for disabled veterans license plates.)

{LC2572/1}

03/21/2025 Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

03/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (04/02/2025)

House Bill No. 5043

BY Azzinaro, Fellela, Serpa, Casimiro, Kennedy, Corvese

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Provides protection from and prevent the unethical, improper conduct and the collection of fees by, anyone advising or assisting a veteran filing a claim for disability benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs except as authorized by federal law.)

{LC40/1}

01/15/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

03/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/25/2025)

03/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

House Bill No. 5052

BY Azzinaro, Fellela, Serpa, Casimiro, Kennedy, Corvese

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Changes the service requirement for admissions to RI Veterans' Home from 90 days to 2 years, and gives priority to veterans defined as war veterans.)

{LC44/1}

01/15/2025 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

02/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/12/2025)

02/12/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/28/2025 <u>Scheduled for consideration</u> (03/04/2025)

03/04/2025 Committee recommends passage

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03/21/2025 <u>Placed on House Calendar</u> (03/27/2025) 03/27/2025 House read and passed

House Bill No. 5077

**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Chippendale, Roberts, Serpa, Tanzi, Cruz, Morales, Place, Read **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Requires DCYF to establish segregated savings account for foster care child receiving SS, SSI, veterans benefits or railroad retirement benefits to manage the accounts and keep child eligible for future benefits.)

{LC588/1}

01/16/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5081

**BY** Boylan, Donovan, Fellela, Serpa, Azzinaro, Giraldo, Casimiro, Abney, Ackerman, Hull **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- CERTIFICATES OF TITLE AND SECURITY INTERESTS -- VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION CHECKS (Waives the fees for vehicle identification number inspections for veterans, including active duty military personnel and members of the National Guard and military reserves.)

{LC67/1}

01/16/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

02/04/2025 Committee transferred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/27/2025)

02/27/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/14/2025 <u>Scheduled for consideration</u> (03/20/2025)

03/20/2025 Committee recommends passage

03/21/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/27/2025)

03/27/2025 House read and passed

House Bill No. 5278 SUB A

**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Kennedy, Shallcross Smith, Abney, Donovan, Felix, Hull, Solomon, Hopkins **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- THE MILITARY CHILD ACT (Defines "military-connected student" and provides advance enrollment and open enrollment school registration procedures to give the military connected student flexibility in choosing a school district.)

{LC1112/A/1}

01/31/2025 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

02/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/12/2025)

02/12/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/28/2025 Scheduled for consideration (03/04/2025)

02/28/2025 Proposed Substitute

03/04/2025 Committee recommends passage of Sub A

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/11/2025)

03/11/2025 House passed Sub A

03/21/2025 Referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

House Bill No. <u>5307</u>

(City of Providence)

BY DeSimone, Biah, Azzinaro, Ajello, Diaz, Slater, Hull

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.)

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{LC972/1}
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02/05/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/04/2025)

03/04/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/14/2025 Scheduled for consideration (03/20/2025)

03/20/2025 Committee recommends passage

03/21/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/27/2025)

03/27/2025 House read and passed

House Bill No. 5309

**BY** Voas, Giraldo, Messier, Stewart, Casey, Finkelman, Marszalkowski, DeSimone, Read, Solomon **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Increases the minimum veterans' exemption from one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) with respect to municipal taxes.)

{LC871/1}

02/05/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/27/2025)

02/27/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

House Bill No. 5370

**BY** Casimiro, Craven

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides tax credits or the equivalent assessment dollars to veterans, gold star parents, visually impaired persons and the elderly.)

{LC1242/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/27/2025)

02/27/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

House Bill No. 5387

(Office of Veterans Services)

**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Casimiro, Ackerman, Donovan, Hopkins, Hull, Lombardi, Newberry, Kennedy **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Adds "space force" to the branches of the military included in various sections of general law regarding the veterans home, veterans cemetery and the power of armed forces officers to take acknowledgements.)

{LC1261/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

02/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/12/2025)

02/12/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

House Bill No. 5391

BY Azzinaro, Kennedy, Fellela, Ackerman, Hull, Santucci, Lombardi

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- PREFERENCE FOR RESIDENTS (Provides Rhode Island residents over nonresidents with priority when making reservations to secure a campsite and other recreational facilities.)

{LC1138/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

03/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (04/03/2025)

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House Bill No. 5419

BY O'Brien, Craven, Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- SAFEGUARDING AMERICAN VETERAN EMPOWERMENT ACT ("SAVE ACT") (Establishes the "safeguarding American veteran empowerment act".)

{LC1310/1}

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

03/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/25/2025)

03/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

House Bill No. 5460

BY Azzinaro, Hull, Abney, Read, Fellela, Casimiro, Solomon

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- UNIFORM AERONAUTICAL REGULATORY ACT (Adds "space force" to many sections of the general laws, listing of military branches.)

{LC1288/1}

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

02/28/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (03/04/2025)

03/04/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/07/2025 Scheduled for consideration (03/13/2025)

03/13/2025 Committee recommends passage

03/21/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/27/2025)

03/27/2025 House read and passed

Total Bills: 24

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