
SENATE BILL 5841

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Baxter, Benton, Carrell, Stevens, Swecker, Hewitt, Schoesler, and Honeyford

Read first time 02/21/11. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection.

1 AN ACT Relating to veterans' relief by permitting private employers
2 to exercise a voluntary veterans' preference in employment; and adding
3 a new section to chapter 73.16 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 73.16 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature intends to establish a permissive preference in
8 private employment for certain veterans.

9 (2) In every private, nonpublic employment in this state, honorably
10 discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines who are veterans of any war
11 of the United States, or of any military campaign for which a campaign
12 ribbon has been awarded, and their widows or widowers, may be preferred
13 for employment. Spouses of honorably discharged veterans who have a
14 service connected permanent and total disability may also be preferred
15 for employment. These preferences are not considered violations of any
16 state or local equal employment opportunity law, including but not
17 limited to any statute or regulation adopted under chapter 49.60 RCW.

18 (3) "Veteran" has the same meanings as defined in RCW 41.04.005 and

1 41.04.007, and includes a current member of the national guard or armed
2 forces reserves who has been deployed to serve in an armed conflict.

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