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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5803**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Conway, Boehnke, Dozier, Frame, Holy, Hunt, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Lovick, MacEwen, Mullet, Nobles, Padden, Stanford, Wagoner, Warnick, and Wellman; by request of Military Department)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to the recruitment and retention of Washington  
2 National Guard members; and adding a new section to chapter 38.24  
3 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 38.24  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) There is created the Washington national guard member  
8 referral incentive program. The purpose of the program is to  
9 incentivize and maximize peer-to-peer recruiting that results in a  
10 completed accession to the Washington national guard by providing a  
11 referral bonus to Washington national guard members who make a  
12 successful referral. Administration of this program requires that:

13 (a) A Washington national guard member may provide the identity  
14 and contact information of a person who the member believes would be  
15 an appropriate recruitment prospect using a form provided by the  
16 Washington national guard, which includes the person's name, contact  
17 information, and any other information required by the state military  
18 department.

19 (b) The state military department shall keep a record of all  
20 forms submitted under (a) of this subsection. Upon the completed  
21 accession of a referred person and to the extent sufficient funds are

1 available, the state military department shall distribute a referral  
2 bonus to the member who provided the successful referral.

3 (2) Members of the Washington national guard serving in command  
4 or senior enlisted advisor positions, as well as those assigned  
5 recruiting as a primary or additional duty, are ineligible for the  
6 Washington national guard member referral incentive program.

7 (3) For the purposes of this section:

8 (a) "Completed accession" means the referred person signs the  
9 referred person's name to an enlistment contract for entry or reentry  
10 after prior service into the Washington national guard;

11 (b) "Referral bonus" means a monetary payment set each calendar  
12 year by the adjutant general not to exceed \$500.00;

13 (c) "Successful referral" means providing the identity and  
14 contact information in subsection (1)(a) of this section of any  
15 person not already a member of the Washington national guard that  
16 results in a completed accession to the Washington national guard.

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