

# Summary of Legislation

## 2026



## Military and Veterans

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During the 2026 legislative session, the General Assembly considered several pieces of legislation concerning military members, veterans, and their families, including honoring military service, waiving tuition and license plate fees, and interactions with the criminal justice system.

### Resolutions Honoring Military Members and Veterans

A number of [resolutions](#) honored the service of military members and veterans.

### Cost Waivers

Four bills dealt with waiving certain costs related to tuition and license plate taxes and fees for military members, veterans, and their families.

[House Bill 26-1386](#), which was part of the 2026 budget package, reduces the reimbursement that the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs provides to state higher education institutions for the National Guard Tuition Waiver Program from a 100 percent of tuition to 50 percent of tuition. State higher education institutions must waive the remaining tuition themselves.

[House Bill 26-1200](#) removes the requirement that a military member, while serving outside of the United States, sign an affidavit to receive certain exemptions from paying motor vehicle taxes and fees.

[Senate Bill 26-067](#) would have created a full tuition waiver for dependents of qualified veterans to attend state higher education institutions. The bill was postponed indefinitely.

Under current law, a veteran who is disabled and meets certain qualifications does not need to pay taxes and fees for one set of disabled veteran license plates. Beginning July 1, 2028, [House Bill 26-1057](#) would have allowed a qualified veteran to be issued a set of standardized license plates or military special license plates without being charged taxes and fees. The bill was deemed lost.

### Criminal Justice

Two bills involved the interaction of military members and veterans with the criminal justice system.

[Senate Bill 26-085](#) requires peace officers to follow certain procedures when responding to domestic violence incidents involving a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces, and requires courts to consider the existence of a military protection order when issuing temporary civil protection orders.

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[Senate Bill 26-096](#) would have created a veterans deferred sentencing program for certain offenses, and required court, law enforcement, and correctional staff to complete training on veteran trauma. The bill was postponed indefinitely.