

# ***2025 Texas Legislative Issues For Defense Communities***

***Keith Sledd – Chair  
Governor’s Committee to Support the Military***




# 2024 GCSM Report

## **2024 Report for Governor's Committee to Support the Military**

- GCSM submitted the final report to the Governor's office on 23 September 2024.
- Released by Governor's Office on 16 December 2024.

[https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/2024\\_Final\\_GCSM\\_Report.docx\\_.pdf](https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/2024_Final_GCSM_Report.docx_.pdf)




### ***Education, Health Care, and Quality of Life***

-  1. Mitigate City/County Impact of Lost Property Tax Revenue for Disabled Veteran Exemption (**HB2894**) (**20 Others**)
-  2. Concurrent Jurisdiction for Juvenile Crime (**SB1271**) (**HB2337**)
- 3. Funding for Military Child Education Coalition
- 4. Texas Temporary License/Certifications for Military Spouse Licensure
-  5. Enhanced Employment Support for Military Spouses (**SB1818**)

### ***Workforce Development***

- 6. Increase Integration Between Texas Educational Providers and Military Installation/Industry Skill Requirements

### ***Encroachment and Infrastructure***

-  7. Fully Fund the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant
-  8. Encroachment on Military Installations and Training Areas (**SB1197**)
-  9. Countering Foreign Adversary Ownership of Texas Public or Private Property to Protect Military Installations/Missions (**SB17**)

# 2025 Session Military & Veterans Bills (1 of 6)

- Total of 231 bills filled relating to Military or Veterans and tracking 93 particular bills.

<div> <div>HEART OF TEXAS DEFENSE ALLIANCE</div> <div>2025 Military &amp; Veterans Legislation Tracker - 20250429</div> </div>									
Bill	Description	Author	Action	Out of House Committee	Voted on By House	Out of Senate Committee	Voted on By Senate	Governor Action	Notes
HB2	Relating to public education and public school finance.	Buckley	23-Apr	10-Apr-25	17-Apr-25	Education K-16			4 Mar & 6 Mar Hearing
HB3	Relating to the establishment of an education savings account program.	Buckley	28-Feb	Public Ed					11 Mar Hearing
HB4	Relating to the assessment of public school students, public school accountability and actions, and proceedings challenging the operations of the public school system.	Buckley	30-Apr	Public Ed	Reported Favorably				
HB6	Relating to discipline in public schools.	Buckley	15-Apr	8-Apr	16-Apr-25	Received 16 April			
HB102	Relating to early registration for certain students at public institutions of higher education.	Wilson	28-Apr	31-Mar-25	15-Apr-25	Vet Affairs	Hearing on 29 April		
HB123	Relating to public education and public school finance.	Dutton	29-Apr	29-Apr-25	Report Distributed				
HB153	Relating to the eligibility of service members and veterans to participate in a veterans treatment court program	Raymond	2-Apr	Corrections	Hearing 9 April				
HB241	Relating to a state employment preference for certain individuals who reside with veterans with a disability.	Guillen	27-Feb	Def & Vet Aff	Hearing 10 March				
HB244	Relating to the applicability of the law governing the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans.	Guillen	27-Feb	Ways & Means					HB1383 / SB247 Identical
HB245	Relating to the treatment of military service credit in the Employees Retirement System of Texas as law enforcement or custodial officer service.	Wilson	1-May	23-Apr	Sent to Calendars				
HB290	Relating to assistance for tuition and fees at postsecondary educational institutions for certain members of the Texas military forces.	Lopez, Ray	15-Apr	1-Apr-25	15-Apr-25	Received 15 Apr			SB1134 Identical
HB572	Relating to the purchase of military service credit in the Employees Retirement System of Texas.	Bell, Cecil	3-Mar	Pensions, Invest, & Finance					
HB617	Relating to the prohibition of housing discrimination on the basis of veteran status and to the enforcement of that prohibition.	Lopez, Ray	4-Mar	Trade, Workforce & Econ Dev					
HB705	Relating to the Cosmetology Licensure Compact; authorizing fees.	Wilson	30-Apr	16-Apr	General State Calendar				Similar to SB1905
HB851	Relating to the determination and reporting of the number of residence homesteads of certain property owners for which the owner is receiving certain ad valorem tax benefits.	Schofield	16-Apr	Ways & Means	Hearing on 21 April				
HB879	Relating to the licensing of certain military veterans as health care providers.	Frank	29-Apr	15-Apr-25	29-Apr-25	Received			
HB906	Relating to a temporary teaching certificate for certain military service members and first responders.	Shaheen	6-Mar	Public Ed					
HB930	Relating to certain requirements for activation of the Texas National Guard into active combat duty.	Cain	12-Mar	Def & Vet Aff	Hearing 17 March				
HB998	Relating to the authority of an individual, before purchasing real property to be used as the individual's residence homestead, to request from the chief appraiser of the applicable appraisal district a preliminary determination of whether the property would qualify for a disabled veteran exemption if purchased by the individual and used for that purpose.	Toth	6-Mar	Ways & Means					

# 2025 Session Military & Veterans Bills (2 of 6)

## 2025 Military & Veterans Legislation Tracker - 20250429

Bill	Description	Author	Action	Out of House Committee	Voted on By House	Out of Senate Committee	Voted on By Senate	Governor Action	Notes
HB1023	Relating to the design and issuance of specialty license plates to honor members of the military and for recipients of certain military awards.	Wilson	7-Mar	Def & Vet Aff	Hearing on 22 April				
HB1055	Relating to the college, career, or military readiness outcomes bonus under the Foundation School Program.	Bhojani	7-Mar	Public Ed					
HB1079	Relating to the inclusion of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and Leadership Officer Training Corps programs as public school career and technology education programs and the indicator of achievement for military readiness under the public school accountability system.	Curry	1-May	Academic & Career Oriented Ed	Hearing on 1 May				
HB1116	Relating to expedited driver's license office appointments for active duty members of the United States armed forces.	Cain	7-Mar	Def & Vet Aff					
HB1309	Relating to the applicability of the law governing the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans and to the effect of the receipt of such aid on the maintenance and operations ad valorem tax rate of a local government.	Hickland	10-Mar	Ways & Means					
HB1325	Relating to transfer of students who are children of certain judges, prosecuting attorneys, and servicemembers.	Vasut	10-Mar	Public Ed					
HB1383	Relating to the applicability of the law governing the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans.	Buckley	11-Mar	Ways & Means					HB244 / SB247 Identical
HB1388	Relating to an indicator of achievement for military readiness under the public school accountability system.	Buckley	11-Mar	Public Ed					
HB1487	Relating to the removal of a fee for the issuance of an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun.	Louderback	11-Mar	Homeland Sec, Public Safe & Vet Affairs					
HB1537	Relating to the Licensed Professional Counselors Compact; authorizing fees.	Goodwin	12-Mar	Human Services					SB498 Identical
HB1557	Relating to waiver programs for certain veterans provided by toll project entities.	Moody	25-Apr	Def & Vet Aff	Reported Favorably				
HB1803	Relating to the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact; authorizing fees.	Harless	25-Apr	Public Health	Sent to Calendars				SB1109 Identical
HB1861	Relating to the minimum requirements for state employee positions.	Cole	14-Mar	Delivery of Gov't Efficiency					
HB1867	Relating to tuition and fee exemptions at public institutions of higher education for the siblings of certain military personnel.	Raymond	14-Mar	Higher Ed					
HB1895	Relating to the operation or expansion of a wind-powered generation facility.	Patterson	14-Mar	State Affairs					
HB1932	Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the residence homesteads of certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.	Lopez, Janie	14-Mar	Ways & Means					
HB1947	Relating to civil and criminal liability for engaging in certain conduct involving a critical infrastructure facility; creating criminal offenses.	Luther	14-Mar	State Affairs					

# 2025 Session Military & Veterans Bills (3 of 6)

## 2025 Military & Veterans Legislation Tracker - 20250429

Bill	Description	Author	Action	Out of House Committee	Voted on By House	Out of Senate Committee	Voted on By Senate	Governor Action	Notes
HB2032	Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the appraised value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of such a veteran based on the disability rating of the veteran.	Campos	23-Jan						SB1126 Identical / Enabled by HJR119
HB2210	Relating to inclusion of the United States Space Force in United States military and veteran statutory definitions.	Bumgarner	25-Apr	Def & Vet Aff	Reported Favorably				
HB2314	Relating to an exception for certain school districts to the requirement that an armed security officer be present at a public school campus.	Garcia	29-Jan						Amend from ISD to Campus
HB2337	Relating to the concurrent jurisdiction of this state over United States military installations with respect to certain subject matters.	Frank	28-Apr	14-Apr-25	Laid on the Table				SB1271 Identical
HB2392	Relating to the payment in installments of ad valorem taxes on a residence homestead.	Martinez Fischer	14-Mar	Ways & Means					
HB2508	Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a qualifying condition or disease.	Turner	29-Apr	14-Apr-25	29-Apr-25				
HB2564	Relating to the evaluation of Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant applications. (Remove Staff evaluation of grants)	Wilson	28-Apr	25-Apr-25	Sent to Calendars				Support submitted 21 March.
HB2626	Relating to creating the Central Texas Water Alliance; providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent domain; providing authority to impose fees.	Buckley/Hickland/Curry/Spiller	29-Apr	8-Apr-25	Laid on the Table				SB1194 Identical
HB2718	Relating to the allocation of money appropriated to the Texas Military Preparedness Commission for the purpose of making certain grants.	Lozano	18-Mar	Def & Vet Aff					
HB2732	Relating to prohibiting school districts from providing student instruction on Veterans Day.	Curry	18-Mar	Public Ed					
HB2757	Relating to a public school policy for establishing age for purposes of admission into the school for certain children of foreign military members.	Frank	25-Apr	Public Ed	Hearing on 29 April				
HB2894	Relating to the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans.	Hickland	25-Apr	8-Apr	22-Apr-25	Finance			
HB3192	Relating to establishing age for purposes of admission into public schools for certain children of foreign military members.	Frank	20-Mar	Public Ed					Update to HB2757
HB3246	Relating to a resilience training program for first responders and active duty military personnel.	LaHood	2-Apr	Public Health	Hearing 7 April				
HB3503	Relating to the Social Work Licensure Compact; authorizing fees.	Darby	24-Mar	Human Services					
HB3821	Relating to the implementation of a veteran discount program for the use of certain toll projects (SH130).	Gerdes	5-Mar						
HB3885	Relating to the transfer of public school students who are children of certain public servants.	Wilson	27-Mar	Public Ed					SB3008 Companion
HB4126	Relating to the transfer of public school students who are children of certain public servants.	Plesa	10-Mar						
HB4225	Relating to military toll discount programs.	Dorazio	31-Mar	Transportation					

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Bill	Description	Author	Action	Out of House Committee	Voted on By House	Out of Senate Committee	Voted on By Senate	Governor Action	Notes
HB4321	Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of a percentage of the assessed value of a property owned by certain disabled veterans and the amount of the exemption for the surviving spouses and children of certain disabled veterans.	Cook	1-Apr	Ways & Means					
HB4409	Relating to the audiology and speech-language pathology interstate compact; authorizing fees.	Oliverson	11-Mar						SB1843 Identical
HB4465	Relating to the dietitian licensure compact; authorizing a fee.	Issac	3-Apr	Public Health					
HB4470	Relating to the termination of a lease agreement of a servicemember's dependent.	Hayes	28-Apr	Trade, Workforce & Econ Dev					
HB4529	Relating to provisional child care licensing. (on Military Installations)	Hefner	29-Apr	28-Apr-25	Sent to Calendars				
HB4647	Relating to the definition of "residence homestead" for purposes of the exemption from ad valorem taxation of the residence homestead of a totally disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of such a veteran.	Lozano	3-Apr	Ways & Means					
HB4789	Relating to creation and maintenance of an electronic database to provide information to certain members of the United States armed forces regarding the resources and benefits provided to veterans.	Hefner	3-Apr	Def & Vet Aff	Hearing on 22 April				SB1814 Identical
HB5043	Relating to the issuance of a provisional license to certain military service members, military veterans, and military spouses to engage in a business or occupation in this state..	McQueeney	17-Apr	Licensing & Admin Proced	Hearing on 22 April				SB1818 Identical
HB5217	Relating to the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans and surviving spouses of certain armed services members.	Perez, Vincent	8-Apr	Ways & Means					SB899 Identical
HB5381	Relating to protections for certain military dependents enrolled in a public school.	Lowe	14-Mar						
HB5629	Relating to the occupational licensing of military spouses.	Wilson	8-Apr	Def & Vet Aff	Hearing 14 April				SB2255 Identical
HJR117	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation all or part of the market value of the residence homesteads of certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.	Lopez, Janie	17-Mar	Ways & Means					
HJR119	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of such a veteran based on the disability rating of the veteran.	Campos	17-Mar	Ways & Means					
HJR133	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is presumed under federal law to have been service-connected.	Turner	29-Apr	17-Apr-25	28-Apr-25	Local Government			
HJR187	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a percentage of the assessed value of property owned by certain disabled veterans.	Cook	2-Apr	Ways & Means					

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Bill	Description	Author	Action	Out of House Committee	Voted on By House	Out of Senate Committee	Voted on By Senate	Governor Action	Notes
SB17	Relating to the purchase or acquisition of real property by certain aliens or foreign entities.	Nichols/et al	25-Apr	Homeland Sec, Public Safe & Vet Affairs	Reported Favorably	17-Mar	19-Mar		
SB150	Relating to the prohibition of certain discrimination; authorizing civil penalties.	Meneendez	3-Feb			Economic Development			
SB247	Relating to the applicability of the law governing the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans.	Flores	3-Feb			Finance			HB244 / HB1383 Identical
SB252	Relating to protections for certain military dependents enrolled in a public school.	Flores	3-Feb			Education			
SB498	Relating to the Licensed Professional Counselors Compact; authorizing fees.	Sparks	3-Feb			Business & Commerce			HB1537 Identical
SB881	Relating to the issuance by the Texas Medical Board of certain licenses to practice medicine and the authority of an insured to select certain license holders under the insured's health policy; requiring an occupational license; authorizing fees.	Sparks	13-Feb			Health & Human Services			Military Assistance Payment for DV loss
SB899	Relating to the provision of state aid to certain local governments disproportionately affected by the granting of ad valorem tax relief to disabled veterans and surviving spouses of certain armed services members.	Blanco	13-Feb			Local Government			Military Assistance Payment for DV loss
SB1109	Relating to the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact; authorizing fees.	Parker	24-Feb			Business & Commerce			HB1803 Identical
SB1126	Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the appraised value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of such a veteran based on the disability rating of the veteran.	Middleton	24-Feb			Local Government			HB290 Identical
SB1134	Relating to assistance for tuition and fees at postsecondary educational institutions for certain members of the Texas military forces.	Hagenbuch	24-Feb			Vet Affairs			HB2032 Identical
SB1194	Relating to creating the Central Texas Water Alliance; providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent domain; providing authority to impose fees.	Flores	29-Apr	28-Apr	30-Apr-25	17-Mar-25	27-Mar-25		HB2626 Identical
SB1197	Relating to the operation of an Previous HitunmannedNext Hit aircraft over a spaceport; creating a criminal offense.	Birdwell	29-Apr	25-Apr	29-Apr-25	1-Apr-25	7-Apr-25		HB3272 Companion
SB1271	Relating to the concurrent jurisdiction of this state over United States military installations with respect to certain subject matters.	Hancock & Hagenbuch	30-Apr	28-Apr	30-Apr-25	7-Apr-25	10-Apr-25		HB2337 Identical
SB1787	Relating to the licensing of certain military veterans as health care providers.	Hagenbuch	13-Mar			Health & Human Services			HB879 Similar
SB1814	Relating to creation and maintenance of an electronic database to provide information to certain members of the United States armed forces regarding the resources and benefits provided to veterans.	Hancock	17-Apr	Def & Vet Aff		1-Apr-25	8-Apr-25		HB4789 Identical
SB1818	Relating to the issuance of a provisional license to certain military service members, military veterans, and military spouses to engage in a business or occupation in this state.	Hancock	22-Apr	Licensing & Admin Proced		7-Apr-25	16-Apr		HB5043 Identical
SB1843	Relating to the audiology and speech-language pathology interstate compact; authorizing fees.	Paxton	13-Mar			Business & Commerce			HB4409 Identical

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SB1905	Relating to the Cosmetology Licensure Compact; authorizing fees.	Zaffrini	17-Mar			Business & Commerce			HB705 Similar
SB2104	Relating to the prohibition of military status discrimination.	Blanco	14-Apr	Hearing on 15 April		Vet Affairs			
SB2179	Relating to the termination of a lease agreement of a servicemember's dependent.	Hagenbuch	24-Mar			Vet Affairs			HB4470 Identical
SB2255	Relating to the occupational licensing of military spouses.	Sparks	25-Mar			Vet Affairs	Hearing on 29 April		HB5629 Identical
SB3008	Relating to the transfer of public school students who are children of certain public servants.	Eckhardt	8-Apr			Education			HB3885 Identical
SJR77	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of such a veteran based on the disability rating of the veteran.	Middleton	25-Mar			Local Government			HJR119 Identical

# ***Historical GCSM Successes***

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## ***Education, Health Care, and Quality of Life***

1. Licensure/Certification Transfer and Acceptance for Military Spouses and Teachers **(2019)**
2. Early Enrollment in School for Children of Service Members **(2019 & 2023)**
3. Create Texas Education Agency Military Webpage **(2019)**
4. Funding for Military Child Education Coalition **(2021)**
5. Create State Council for Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children **(2021)**
6. Defense Manpower Data for Texas School A-F Accountability Ratings **(2023)**

## ***Workforce Development***

7. Create Online Information Repository for Servicemembers and Family Members **(2019)**

## ***Encroachment and Infrastructure***

8. Allow TXDOT Interagency Contracts with Military Installations **(2021 & 2023)**
9. Fully Fund the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant **(2019, 2021, & 2023)**
10. Prohibits Operation of Non-Military Unmanned Aircraft over Military Installations **(2021)**
11. Add US Army CID and USAF OSI to Texas Criminal Code as recognized LEOs **(2021)**

# ***QUESTIONS***