

Vern Larson

Council on Veterans Programs & Board of Veterans Affairs

March Report

Legislative update

Bills passed and signed into law:

- 2023 Wisconsin Act 70- Adds 3 representatives from student organizations to the COVP Board.
 - UW System representative
 - Technical College representative
 - Independent/Private College Representative
- 2023 Wisconsin act 69- designating and marking the entire route of state Hwy. 80 as the Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shields Memorial Highway
- Amendment 1 Wisconsin act 102 removing board of Veterans Affairs authority to approve construction on grounds off Camp Randall Memorial Park for purposes of the new athletic facility

Passed and waiting to be sent to Governor:

- SB 546 - allowing admission of spouses to Wisconsin veterans homes if veteran is not already admitted. Currently, state law requires veteran to be a resident before spouse can be admitted.
- SB 633 - Designating and making I-90 from the Minnesota Wisconsin State line in Lacrosse county to the intersection of I-90 and I-94 in Monroe County as the HO Chunk World WarII Code Talkers Memorial Highway.

- SB383 - allowing Hmong soldiers who fought in Laos in support of U.S. forces to indicate his or her veteran status on a Wisconsin operators license or identification card.

Passed one House of the legislature

- AB102/SB102 - reducing the eligibility threshold to claim the veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit from 100% to 70%. Authors of the bill are looking at amendments that would limit this bill to certain income groups in order to lessen the impact of local governments. Passed by Assembly, approved by a Senate committee, did not get put on the agenda before the Senate adjourned.

May 18th – Armed Forces Day Open House Ft. McCoy.

April 5 - Veterans Recognition Day – Eau Claire VFW#305