

House File 469 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 469

BY RINKER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to state services and benefits provided to
2 veterans, including state grants, public assistance programs,
3 business fee waivers, substance use disorder programs, mental
4 health and disability services, undergraduate tuition and
5 fees, disabled veteran tax credits, department of natural
6 resources' licenses and fees, civil litigation priority,
7 permit to carry weapons fees, vehicle registration fees,
8 and driver's licenses, making penalties applicable, making
9 appropriations, and including effective date provisions.
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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DIVISION I

VETERAN PREFERENCE — STATE GRANTS

Section 1. NEW SECTION. **35.4 Veteran preference — state grants.**

1. A state agency shall give preference to a veteran over other applicants of no greater qualifications for the award of a grant that is overseen, implemented, or funded by the state.

2. For purposes of this section, "state agency" means the same as defined in section 8.11.

DIVISION II

VETERAN PREFERENCE — PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **35C.10 Veteran preference — public assistance programs.**

Veterans who are citizens and residents of the United States are entitled to preference for assistance programs including but not limited to public assistance pursuant to chapter 239, the family investment program pursuant to chapter 239B, the supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, the state child care assistance program established pursuant to section 237A.13, and the United States department of housing and urban development housing choice voucher program.

DIVISION III

BUSINESS FEE WAIVERS

Sec. 3. Section 9.11, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

As used in this ~~subchapter~~ part, unless the context otherwise requires:

Sec. 4. Section 9.12, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

9.12 Rules.

The secretary shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A necessary or desirable to administer this ~~subchapter~~ part, including by offering and performing extra filing services upon request by filers. The rules may increase the amount of a surcharge implemented, assessed, and collected, or modify the

1 period of service as provided under this ~~subchapter~~ part.

2 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **9.21 Definitions.**

3 As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

4 1. "Secretary" means the secretary of state.

5 2. "Waiver" means a military service filing fee waiver as
6 provided in sections 9.22 and 9.23.

7 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **9.22 Rules.**

8 1. The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to
9 chapter 17A necessary or desirable to administer this part.

10 2. The rules adopted pursuant to subsection 1 shall at least
11 provide procedures governing a request by a qualified business
12 entity to receive a military service filing fee waiver from the
13 secretary, the secretary's approval or rejection of that request,
14 and the qualified business entity's receipt and use of that
15 waiver by an eligible filer, all as provided in sections 9.24 and
16 9.25.

17 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. **9.23 Fees not subject to waiver.**

18 1. This part does not apply to waive a fee imposed on a filed
19 select document if the qualified business entity receives the
20 waiver after the select document is filed, unless the secretary
21 of state allows for the refund of such fee.

22 2. This part does not prohibit the refund of a filing fee
23 otherwise authorized by another provision of law.

24 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. **9.24 Military service filing fee
25 waiver.**

26 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
27 the secretary of state shall establish a military service filing
28 fee waiver. The waiver shall apply to select documents, if filed
29 on behalf of a qualified business entity by an eligible filer,
30 and approved by the secretary, as provided in section 9.25.

31 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. **9.25 Qualifications for business
32 entities, eligibility for filers, and selection of documents —
33 criteria.**

34 1. A business entity qualifies to receive a military service
35 filing fee waiver if the business entity is any of the following:

1 a. A domestic limited partnership formed under chapter 488 or
2 a foreign limited partnership transacting business in this state
3 under that chapter.

4 b. A domestic limited liability company formed under chapter
5 489 or a foreign limited liability company doing business in this
6 state under that chapter.

7 c. A domestic corporation formed under chapter 490 or a
8 foreign corporation doing business in this state under that
9 chapter.

10 d. A domestic nonprofit corporation formed under chapter 504
11 or a foreign nonprofit corporation transacting business in this
12 state under that chapter.

13 2. An individual is eligible to sign for filing a select
14 document receiving a waiver on behalf of the qualified business
15 entity, if the individual is all of the following:

16 a. An interest holder in the qualified business entity.

17 b. Any of the following:

18 (1) An officer or enlisted member serving in the armed forces
19 of the United States, including any component, part, or corps of
20 the armed forces of the United States, as described in chapter
21 29A.

22 (2) An officer or enlisted member of the national guard or
23 organized reserves of the armed forces of the United States; any
24 regular, reserve, or auxiliary member of the United States coast
25 guard; or any member of the civil air patrol.

26 (3) A veteran as defined in section 35.1.

27 3. A document is selected to receive a waiver only if the
28 document is named in the following:

29 a. Section 488.117A, subsection 1, for limited partnerships.

30 b. Section 489.122, subsection 1, for limited liability
31 companies.

32 c. Section 490.122, subsection 1, for corporations.

33 d. Section 504.113, subsection 1, for nonprofit corporations.

34 4. The secretary by rule may provide for all of the
35 following:

1 a. Additional requirements for the qualifications of a
2 business entity, the eligibility of a filer, or a document's
3 selection for waiver.

4 b. A routine approval process.

5 Sec. 10. Section 488.117A, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
6 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

7 The Except as provided in subsection 4, the secretary of state
8 shall collect the following fees when the documents described
9 in this subsection are delivered to the secretary's office for
10 filing:

11 Sec. 11. Section 488.117A, Code 2025, is amended by adding
12 the following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A limited partnership, filing as a
14 qualified business entity under chapter 9, subchapter II, part
15 2, may request and shall receive a military service filing fee
16 waiver for a select document named in subsection 1.

17 Sec. 12. Section 489.122, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
18 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

19 The Except as provided in subsection 3A, the secretary of
20 state shall collect the following fees when documents described
21 in this subsection are delivered to the secretary's office for
22 filing:

23 Sec. 13. Section 489.122, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
24 following new subsection:

25 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. A limited liability company, or foreign
26 limited liability company, filing as a qualified business entity
27 under chapter 9, subchapter II, part 2, may request and shall
28 receive a military service filing fee waiver for a select
29 document named in subsection 1.

30 Sec. 14. Section 490.122, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
31 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

32 The Except as provided in subsection 4, the secretary of state
33 shall collect the following fees when the documents described
34 in this subsection are delivered to the secretary of state for
35 filing:

1 Sec. 15. Section 490.122, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
2 following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A corporation, or a foreign corporation,
4 filing as a qualified business entity under chapter 9, subchapter
5 II, part 2, may request and shall receive a military service
6 filing fee waiver for a select document named in subsection 1.

7 Sec. 16. Section 504.113, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
8 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

9 The Except as provided in subsection 4, the secretary of state
10 shall collect the following fees, as provided by the secretary
11 of state, when the documents described in this subsection are
12 delivered for filing:

13 Sec. 17. Section 504.113, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
14 following new subsection:

15 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A corporation, filing as a qualified
16 business entity under chapter 9, subchapter II, part 2, may
17 request and shall receive a military service filing fee waiver
18 for a select document named in subsection 1.

19 Sec. 18. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE. The Code editor shall
20 designate chapter 9, subchapter II, sections 9.11 through 9.15 as
21 part 1 and sections 9.21 through 9.25 as part 2.

22 Sec. 19. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
23 effect January 1, 2026.

24

DIVISION IV

25 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROGRAMS — MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY
26 SERVICES

27 Sec. 20. NEW SECTION. **125.35 Veterans — priority**
28 **assistance.**

29 Each facility licensed under this chapter that maintains a
30 wait list for care, maintenance, or treatment of persons with
31 a substance use disorder shall place a veteran, as defined in
32 section 35.1, on the wait list in a position that allows the
33 veteran priority for acceptance into the treatment program under
34 section 125.32 before any person on the wait list who is not a
35 veteran, but after each veteran currently on the wait list.

1 (2) "Veteran" means the same as defined in section 35.1.

2 DIVISION VI

3 DRIVER'S LICENSE — VETERAN STATUS — FEES

4 Sec. 23. Section 321.189, subsection 8, Code 2025, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 8. ~~Veterans~~ Veteran status. A licensee who is an ~~honorably~~
7 ~~discharged~~ a veteran of the armed forces of the United States,
8 as defined in section 35.1, may request that the license be
9 marked to reflect the licensee's veteran status. Upon such a
10 request, the word "VETERAN" shall be marked prominently on the
11 face of the license. Such a license shall be issued upon receipt
12 of satisfactory proof of veteran status pursuant to procedures
13 established by the department in consultation with the department
14 of veterans affairs, or upon presentation of the licensee's
15 certification of release or discharge from active duty, DD
16 form 214, to the department at the time of the licensee's
17 request, if the form indicates the licensee was honorably
18 discharged. If the license is issued upon presentation of the
19 licensee's certification of release or discharge from active
20 duty, DD form 214, the department shall notify the commission
21 of veteran affairs of the county of the licensee's residence
22 that the licensee was issued a license marked to reflect the
23 licensee's veteran status. After receiving notification from
24 the department, the commission of veteran affairs shall initiate
25 contact with the licensee.

26 Sec. 24. Section 321.191, subsection 10, paragraph a, Code
27 2025, is amended to read as follows:

28 a. The fees set forth under subsections 2, 3, 4, and 5 to
29 an applicant who is a veteran ~~with a permanent service-connected~~
30 ~~disability rating of one hundred percent, as certified by the~~
31 ~~United States department of veterans affairs,~~ as defined in
32 section 35.1.

33 DIVISION VII

34 VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES — VETERANS EXEMPT

35 Sec. 25. Section 321.105, Code 2025, is amended by adding the

1 following new subsection:

2 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. A veteran, as defined in section 35.1,
3 who is not otherwise exempt under subsection 5, is exempt from
4 payment of annual registration fees provided in this chapter for
5 not more than three vehicles registered by the veteran, if the
6 veteran resides in Iowa. The veteran shall be provided, without
7 fee, one set of regular registration plates for each vehicle. In
8 lieu of the set of regular registration plates available without
9 fee, the veteran may obtain a set of special registration plates
10 or personalized registration plates issued under section 321.34
11 by paying the additional fees associated with those plates.

12 DIVISION VIII

13 DISABLED VETERAN TAX CREDIT

14 Sec. 26. NEW SECTION. **426D.1 Disabled veterans property tax**
15 **credit.**

16 1. For purposes of this section, "qualifying veteran" means
17 a person who meets the definition of a veteran under section
18 35.1, and has a disability rating of twenty percent or more as
19 certified by the United States department of veterans affairs.

20 2. A qualifying veteran shall be allowed a credit on each
21 property that is owned solely by the qualifying veteran or
22 jointly by the qualifying veteran and the qualifying veteran's
23 spouse.

24 3. The amount of the credit under this section on a property
25 shall be equal to the property tax owed on the property
26 multiplied by the disability rating given to the qualifying
27 veteran as certified by the United States department of veterans
28 affairs, up to a maximum reduction of ten thousand dollars per
29 property.

30 4. The credit allowed under this section shall continue until
31 the later to occur of the following:

32 a. The qualifying veteran dies.

33 b. The qualifying veteran's surviving spouse dies or the
34 qualifying veteran's surviving spouse remarries, whichever is
35 earlier.

1 5. a. Except as provided in paragraph "b", the list of the
2 names and addresses of individuals allowed a credit under this
3 section and maintained by the county recorder, county treasurer,
4 county assessor, city assessor, or other government body is
5 confidential information and shall not be disseminated to any
6 person unless otherwise ordered by a court or released by the
7 lawful custodian of the records pursuant to state or federal law.
8 The county recorder, county treasurer, county assessor, city
9 assessor, or other government body responsible for maintaining
10 the names and addresses of individuals allowed a credit under
11 this section may display the credit on individual paper records
12 and individual electronic records, including display on an
13 internet site.

14 b. Upon request, a county recorder, county assessor, city
15 assessor, or other entity may share information as described in
16 paragraph "a" with a county veterans service officer for purposes
17 of providing information on benefits and services available to
18 veterans and their families.

19 **Sec. 27. NEW SECTION. 426D.2 Computation by auditor.**

20 On or before August 1 of each year, the county auditor shall
21 certify to the county treasurer all claims for disabled veteran
22 tax credits which have been allowed by the board of supervisors.
23 Such certificate shall list the total amount of dollars, listed
24 by taxing district in the county, due for disabled veteran tax
25 credits claimed and allowed. The county treasurer shall certify
26 to the department of revenue the amount of dollars, listed by
27 taxing district in the county, due for disabled veteran tax
28 credits claimed and allowed.

29 **Sec. 28. NEW SECTION. 426D.3 Certification by director of**
30 **revenue.**

31 Sums distributable from the general fund of the state shall be
32 allocated annually to the counties of the state. On September
33 15 of each year, the director of revenue shall certify and the
34 department of administrative services shall draw warrants to the
35 treasurer of each county payable from the general fund of the

1 state in the amount claimed. Payments shall be made to the
2 treasurer of each county no later than September 30 of each year.

3 Sec. 29. NEW SECTION. **426D.4 Proportionate shares to**
4 **districts.**

5 The amount of credits received under this chapter shall
6 be apportioned by each county treasurer to the several taxing
7 districts. Each taxing district shall receive its share of the
8 disabled veteran tax credit allowed in the taxing district on a
9 property in an amount equal to the proportion of the levy made by
10 the taxing district in relation to the total of all levies made
11 on the property.

12 Sec. 30. NEW SECTION. **426D.5 Setting aside allowance.**

13 If the department of revenue determines that a claim for
14 disabled veteran tax credit has been allowed by a board of
15 supervisors which is not justifiable under the law and not
16 substantiated by proper facts, the department may, at any time
17 within thirty-six months from July 1 of the year in which
18 the claim is allowed, set aside the allowance. Notice of
19 the disallowance shall be given to the county auditor of the
20 county in which the claim has been improperly granted and a
21 written notice of the disallowance shall also be addressed to the
22 claimant at the claimant's last known address. The claimant or
23 the board of supervisors may appeal to the director of revenue
24 within thirty days from the date of the notice of disallowance.
25 The director shall grant a hearing and if, upon the hearing,
26 the director determines that the disallowance was incorrect, the
27 director shall set aside the disallowance. The director shall
28 notify the claimant and the board of supervisors of the result
29 of the hearing. The claimant or the board of supervisors may
30 seek judicial review of the action of the director of revenue
31 in accordance with chapter 17A. If a claim is disallowed by the
32 department of revenue and not appealed to the director of revenue
33 or appealed to the director of revenue and subsequently upheld
34 upon final resolution, including judicial review, the credits
35 allowed and paid from the general fund of the state become a

1 lien upon the property on which the credit was originally granted
2 if the property is still owned by the claimant and not a bona
3 fide purchaser. The amount owing on the lien shall be collected
4 by the county treasurer in the same manner as other taxes, and
5 the collections shall be returned to the department of revenue
6 and credited to the general fund of the state. The director
7 of revenue may institute legal proceedings against a disabled
8 veteran tax credit claimant for the collection of payments made
9 on disallowed credits.

10 Sec. 31. NEW SECTION. **426D.6 Forms — rules.**

11 1. The director of revenue shall prescribe the form for
12 making a verified statement and designating property for the
13 disabled veteran tax credit and such other forms as may be
14 necessary for the proper administration of this chapter. The
15 department of revenue shall forward to each county auditor
16 prescribed sample forms.

17 2. The department of revenue shall adopt rules pursuant to
18 chapter 17A to implement and administer this chapter.

19 Sec. 32. NEW SECTION. **426D.7 Excess remitted — appeals.**

20 1. If the amount of credit apportioned to any property
21 eligible for a disabled veteran tax credit under this chapter
22 in any year shall exceed the total tax, exclusive of any
23 special assessments levied against such property eligible for the
24 disabled veteran tax credit, then the excess shall be remitted
25 by the county treasurer to the department of revenue to be
26 redeposited in the general fund of the state and reallocated the
27 following year by the department.

28 2. a. If any claim for a credit made has been denied by the
29 board of supervisors, and the action is subsequently reversed on
30 appeal, the credit shall be allowed on the assessed valuation,
31 not to exceed the amount of the disabled veteran tax credit
32 involved in the appeal, as was allowed on other disabled veteran
33 tax credit valuations for the year or years in question, and the
34 director of revenue, the county auditor, and the county treasurer
35 shall credit and change their books and records accordingly.

1 b. If the appealing taxpayer has paid one or both of the
2 installments of the tax payable in the year or years in question
3 on the disabled veteran tax credit valuation, remittance shall be
4 made to the county treasurer in the amount of such credit.

5 c. The amount of the credit shall be allocated and paid from
6 the surplus redeposited in the general fund of the state provided
7 for in subsection 1.

8 Sec. 33. NEW SECTION. **426D.8 Erroneous credits.**

9 If any claim is allowed, and subsequently reversed on appeal,
10 any credit shall be void, and the amount of the credit shall
11 be charged against the property in question, and the director
12 of revenue, the county auditor, and the county treasurer shall
13 correct their books and records. The amount of the erroneous
14 credit, when collected, shall be returned by the county treasurer
15 to the general fund of the state.

16 Sec. 34. NEW SECTION. **426D.9 Allowance — continuing**
17 **effectiveness.**

18 1. The assessor shall retain a permanent file of current
19 disabled veteran tax credit claims filed in the assessor's
20 office. The assessor shall file a notice of transfer of property
21 for which a claim is filed when notice is received from the
22 office of the county recorder, from the person who sold or
23 transferred the property, or from the personal representative of
24 a deceased claimant.

25 2. The county recorder shall give notice to the assessor of
26 each transfer of title filed in the recorder's office. The
27 notice shall describe the property transferred, the name of the
28 person transferring the title to the property, and the name of
29 the person to whom title to the property has been transferred.

30 3. Not later than July 6 of each year, the assessor
31 shall remit the claims and designations of property to the
32 county auditor with the assessor's recommendation for allowance
33 or disallowance. If the assessor recommends disallowance
34 of a claim, the assessor shall submit the reasons for the
35 recommendation, in writing, to the county auditor.

1 4. The county auditor shall forward the claims to the board
2 of supervisors. The board shall allow or disallow the claims.
3 If the board disallows a claim, it shall send written notice, by
4 mail, to the claimant at the claimant's last known address. The
5 notice shall state the reasons for disallowing the claim for the
6 credit. The board is not required to send notice that a claim is
7 disallowed if the claimant voluntarily withdraws the claim.

8 5. Any person whose claim is denied under the provisions
9 of this chapter may appeal from the action of the board of
10 supervisors in the district court of the county in which said
11 claimed disabled veteran tax credit is situated by giving written
12 notice of such appeal to the county auditor of said county within
13 twenty days from the date of mailing of notice of such action by
14 the board of supervisors.

15 6. Upon adoption of a resolution by the county board of
16 supervisors, any person may request, in writing, from the
17 appropriate assessor forms for the filing for a disabled veteran
18 tax credit. The person may complete the form, which shall
19 include a statement claiming the disabled veteran tax credit and
20 designating the property upon which the tax credit is claimed,
21 and mail or return it to the appropriate assessor. The signature
22 of the claimant on the claim shall be considered the claimant's
23 acknowledgment that all statements and facts entered on the form
24 are correct to the best of the claimant's knowledge.

25 Sec. 35. NEW SECTION. **426D.10 Penalty.**

26 Any person making a false affidavit for the purpose of
27 obtaining the credit provided for in this chapter or who
28 knowingly receives the credit without being legally entitled to
29 the credit, shall be guilty of a fraudulent practice.

30 Sec. 36. NEW SECTION. **426D.11 Appropriations.**

31 There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
32 the amounts necessary to fund the credits provided under this
33 chapter.

34

DIVISION IX

35

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES — LICENSES AND FEES

1 Sec. 37. Section 455A.14, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
2 following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. The department shall not require a
4 veteran to pay a fee established by the department pursuant to
5 this section. The department of veterans affairs shall assist
6 the department in verifying the status or claims of applicants
7 under this subsection. As used in this subsection, "veteran"
8 means the same as defined in section 35.1.

9 Sec. 38. NEW SECTION. **462A.5B Veteran registration fee.**

10 A veteran who submits a proper application for a vessel
11 registration pursuant to section 462A.5 shall receive a
12 registration certificate from the county recorder without paying
13 a registration or writing fee. The department of veterans
14 affairs shall assist the department and the county recorder's
15 office in verifying the status or claims of applicants under this
16 section. As used in this section, "veteran" means the same as
17 defined in section 35.1.

18 Sec. 39. Section 483A.1, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 1. a. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a person
21 shall not fish, trap, hunt, pursue, catch, kill, take in any
22 manner, use, have possession of, sell, or transport all or a part
23 of any wild animal, bird, game, turtle, or fish, the protection
24 and regulation of which is desirable for the conservation of
25 resources of the state, without first obtaining a license for
26 that purpose, and the payment of a fee as established by rules
27 adopted by the commission pursuant to chapter 17A.

28 b. A veteran applying for any hunting, fur harvester, or
29 fishing license issued pursuant to paragraph "a", whether general
30 or specific, is not required to pay a fee to obtain the license.
31 The department of veterans affairs shall assist the department
32 in verifying the status or claims of applicants under this
33 paragraph. As used in this paragraph, "veteran" means the same
34 as defined in section 35.1.

35 Sec. 40. Section 483A.3, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended

1 by adding the following new paragraph:

2 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. A veteran who has obtained a valid hunting
3 or fur harvester license pursuant to section 483A.1 is not
4 required to pay the wildlife habitat fee for that license.
5 The department of veterans affairs shall assist the department
6 in verifying the status or claims of applicants under this
7 paragraph. As used in this paragraph, "veteran" means the same
8 as defined in section 35.1.

9 Sec. 41. Section 483A.6, Code 2025, is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 **483A.6 Trout fishing fee.**

12 Any person required to have a fishing license, except for a
13 veteran, shall not fish for or possess trout unless that person
14 has paid the trout fishing fee. The department shall not require
15 a veteran to pay a trout fishing fee. The proceeds from the fee
16 shall be used exclusively for the trout program designated by the
17 commission. The commission may grant a permit to a community
18 event in which trout will be stocked in water ~~which~~ that is
19 not designated trout water and a person may catch and possess
20 trout during the period and from the water covered by the permit
21 without having paid the trout fishing fee. For purposes of this
22 section, "veteran" means the same as defined in section 35.1.

23 Sec. 42. Section 483A.24, subsections 16 and 19, Code 2025,
24 are amended to read as follows:

25 ~~16. Upon payment of the fee established by rules adopted~~
26 ~~pursuant to section 483A.1 application~~ for a lifetime fishing
27 license or lifetime hunting and fishing combined license, the
28 department shall issue a lifetime fishing license or lifetime
29 hunting and fishing combined license to a resident of Iowa who
30 has served in the armed forces of the United States on federal
31 active duty and who was disabled or was a prisoner of war during
32 that veteran's military service. The department shall prepare an
33 application to be used by a person requesting a lifetime fishing
34 license or lifetime hunting and fishing combined license under
35 this subsection. The department of veterans affairs shall assist

1 the department in verifying the status or claims of applicants
2 under this subsection. As used in this subsection, "disabled"
3 means entitled to a service connected rating under 38 U.S.C.
4 ch. 11.

5 19. ~~Upon payment of a fee established by rules adopted~~
6 ~~pursuant to section 483A.1~~ application for a lifetime trout
7 fishing license, the department shall issue a lifetime trout
8 fishing license to a person who is at least sixty-five years
9 of age or to a person who qualifies for the disabled veteran
10 homestead credit under section 425.15. The department shall
11 prepare an application to be used by a person requesting a
12 lifetime trout fishing license under this subsection.

13 DIVISION X

14 CIVIL LITIGATION BY VETERANS

15 Sec. 43. NEW SECTION. **610B.1 Civil actions or appeals**
16 **brought by veterans.**

17 If a person bringing a civil action or appeal is a veteran,
18 as defined in section 35.1, the court shall make every effort to
19 grant the veteran priority over other actions brought by other
20 persons, including granting the highest scheduling priority to a
21 veteran's proceedings.

22 DIVISION XI

23 PERMIT TO CARRY WEAPONS FEES

24 Sec. 44. Section 724.11, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 3. a. The issuing officer shall collect a fee of fifty
27 dollars for an initial permit, except from a duly appointed
28 peace officer or correctional officer, for each permit issued.
29 Renewal permits or duplicate permits shall be issued for a
30 fee of twenty-five dollars, provided the application for such
31 renewal permit is received by the issuing officer within
32 thirty days prior to the expiration of the applicant's current
33 permit or within thirty days after the expiration of the
34 applicant's current permit. The issuing officer shall notify the
35 commissioner of public safety of the issuance of any permit at

1 least monthly and forward to the commissioner an amount equal
2 to ten dollars for each permit issued and five dollars for each
3 renewal or duplicate permit issued. All such fees received
4 by the commissioner shall be paid to the treasurer of state
5 and deposited in the operating account of the department of
6 public safety to offset the cost of administering this chapter.
7 Notwithstanding section 8.33, any unspent balance as of June 30
8 of each year shall not revert to the general fund of the state.

9 b. A veteran, as defined in section 35.1, who has a
10 service-connected disability is exempt from payment of fees
11 imposed under this subsection. The department of veterans
12 affairs shall assist in verifying the status or claims of an
13 applicant under this paragraph. As used in this paragraph,
14 "service-connected disability" means a condition entitling the
15 veteran to a service-connected rating under 38 U.S.C. ch. 11.

16 EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill relates to state services and benefits provided to
20 veterans.

21 DIVISION I — VETERANS PREFERENCE — STATE GRANTS. This
22 division requires a state agency to give preference to a veteran
23 over another applicant of similar qualifications for the award of
24 a grant that is overseen, implemented, or funded by the state.

25 DIVISION II — VETERAN PREFERENCE — PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
26 PROGRAMS. This division requires the state to provide veterans
27 who are citizens and residents of the United States a preference
28 for assistance programs including but not limited to public
29 assistance, the family investment program, the supplemental
30 nutrition program for women, infants, and children, the state
31 child care assistance program, and the United States department
32 of housing and urban development housing choice voucher program.

33 DIVISION III — BUSINESS FEE WAIVERS.

34 BACKGROUND (BUSINESS ENTITIES). A business entity is a general
35 term for an association formed to conduct business under several

1 types of organizational structures recognized by law (e.g.,
2 partnership and limited partnership, business and nonprofit
3 corporation, limited liability company, and cooperative).
4 Generally, a business entity may be formed as a domestic business
5 entity in its home state or as a foreign business entity doing
6 business in a state although it was formed in another home state.
7 In Iowa, a business entity is governed under its own dedicated
8 Code chapter, often based on model legislation with fee amounts
9 reserved for decision by the enacting body. In Iowa, like most
10 states, a business entity is under the general authority of the
11 secretary of state (secretary).

12 SUMMARY. This division provides that a qualified business
13 entity that requests and receives a military service filing fee
14 waiver (waiver) from the secretary is not required to submit
15 a fee for filing a number of select documents. The division
16 specifies qualifications for a business entity, eligibility for
17 the filer of a select document, and the names of select documents
18 having fees waived, subject to further requirements that the
19 secretary may adopt by rule.

20 STATUTORY ORGANIZATION. The division amends Code chapter 9
21 establishing the secretary's office. Specifically, it enacts new
22 provisions in subchapter II of that Code chapter which currently
23 includes provisions authorizing extra filing services. It also
24 amends various Code chapters each of which governs a specific
25 type of business entity. The division amends the principal Code
26 section in each such Code chapter that includes a laundry list of
27 fees for filing documents.

28 IN DETAIL — QUALIFIED BUSINESS ENTITIES. First, in order
29 to receive a waiver, the business entity must be qualified,
30 meaning that the waiver is limited to a domestic or foreign
31 limited partnership (Code chapter 488); domestic or foreign
32 limited liability company (Code chapter 489); domestic or foreign
33 business corporation (Code chapter 490); and domestic or foreign
34 nonprofit corporation (Code chapter 504).

35 IN DETAIL — ELIGIBLE FILERS. Second, an individual acting on

1 behalf of the qualified business entity must meet eligibility
2 criteria. The individual must sign the document; must be an
3 interest holder in the qualified business entity; and must be
4 serving in the United States armed forces, the national guard or
5 organized reserves, the United States coast guard, or the civil
6 air patrol, or alternatively must be a veteran.

7 IN DETAIL — SELECT DOCUMENTS FOR FILING. Third, the filed
8 document must be selected to receive the waiver. A select
9 document may include those associated with the business
10 entity's organization, name, registered agent or registered
11 office, domestication or conversion, merger, dissolution or
12 reinstatement, foreign registration, correction, validation,
13 biennial report, or other document required or permitted to be
14 filed. The amount of the fee ranges from \$5 to \$100.

15 EFFECTIVE DATE. This division takes effect January 1, 2026.

16 DIVISION IV — SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROGRAMS — MENTAL
17 HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES. This division requires each
18 facility licensed under Code chapter 125 (substance use
19 disorders) that maintains a wait list for care, maintenance, or
20 treatment of persons with a substance use disorder to place a
21 veteran on the wait list in a position that allows the veteran
22 priority for acceptance into the treatment program before any
23 person on the wait list who is not a veteran, but after each
24 veteran currently on the wait list.

25 The division requires each service provider operating through
26 the mental health and disability services regional service system
27 that maintains a wait list for mental health or disability
28 services to place a veteran on the wait list in a position that
29 allows the veteran to receive the services before any person
30 on the wait list who is not a veteran, but after each veteran
31 currently on the wait list.

32 DIVISION V — WAIVER OF UNDERGRADUATE TUITION AND MANDATORY
33 FEES. This division requires the state board of regents to adopt
34 rules that waive undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees for
35 veterans, or a dependent of the veteran, while the veteran or

1 dependent is enrolled in an institution of higher education under
2 the board's control, if the veteran was a resident of this state
3 immediately prior to joining the armed forces of the United
4 States, was discharged under honorable conditions, and resides in
5 this state immediately prior to applying to enroll, or prior to
6 the dependent applying to enroll, in the institution.

7 The division provides that the rules shall not waive an amount
8 of tuition and mandatory fees that exceeds the difference between
9 the combined amount of tuition and mandatory fees charged by the
10 institution less any federal financial aid award the veteran or
11 dependent receives.

12 The division defines "dependent" to mean the spouse or child
13 of a veteran. The division defines "veteran" by reference to
14 Code section 35.1.

15 DIVISION VI — DRIVER'S LICENSE — VETERAN STATUS —
16 FEES. This division of the bill relates to driver's licenses
17 issued to veterans.

18 Current law requires the department of transportation (DOT) to
19 mark a driver's license with the word "VETERAN" if the applicant
20 is a qualifying veteran. Under Code section 321.189, a licensee
21 must be an honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces
22 of the United States to qualify for a veteran status license.
23 The DOT has adopted administrative rules defining "veteran" for
24 purposes of licensees requesting a veteran status license (761
25 IAC 605.5(7)(e)). The bill strikes certain existing service
26 qualifications and instead references the definition of "veteran"
27 provided in Code section 35.1.

28 Under current law, the DOT is prohibited from charging a
29 fee to issue a noncommercial driver's license or license valid
30 for motorcycles to an applicant who is a veteran with a
31 permanent service-connected disability rating of 100 percent, as
32 certified by the United States department of veterans affairs.
33 The bill prohibits the DOT from charging a fee to issue a
34 noncommercial driver's license (\$4 per year of validity), license
35 for chauffeurs (\$8 per year of validity), commercial driver's

1 license (\$8 per year of license validity), or license valid for
2 motorcycles (an additional fee of \$2 per year of validity) to a
3 veteran, as defined in Code section 35.1.

4 DIVISION VII — VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES — VETERANS
5 EXEMPT. This division of the bill relates to registration fees
6 for vehicles owned by veterans.

7 Current law exempts seriously disabled veterans who have been
8 provided with an automobile or other vehicle by the United States
9 government from paying motor vehicle registration fees. The
10 bill exempts all other veterans who reside in Iowa from paying
11 annual vehicle registration fees for not more than three vehicles
12 registered by the veteran, and provides for one free set of
13 regular registration plates for each vehicle. In lieu of the set
14 of regular registration plates available without fee, a veteran
15 may obtain a set of special registration plates or personalized
16 registration plates by paying the additional fees associated with
17 those plates under current law. Under current law, several
18 special registration plates relating to service in the armed
19 forces are available at no charge to eligible persons.

20 DIVISION VIII — DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX CREDIT. This
21 division creates a property tax credit for certain veterans.

22 The division defines "qualifying veteran" as a person who
23 meets the definition of a veteran under Code section 35.1
24 (veterans affairs), and has a disability rating of 20 percent
25 or more as certified by the United States department of veterans
26 affairs.

27 The division allows a qualifying veteran a credit on each
28 property that is owned solely by the qualifying veteran or
29 jointly by the qualifying veteran and the qualifying veteran's
30 spouse. The amount of the credit on a property is equal to the
31 property tax owed on the property multiplied by the disability
32 rating given to the qualifying veteran as certified by the United
33 States department of veterans affairs, up to a maximum reduction
34 of \$10,000 per property.

35 The division allows the credit to continue until the later to

1 occur between the qualifying veteran's death and the earlier to
2 occur between the qualifying veteran's surviving spouse's death
3 or remarriage.

4 Except upon a county veterans service officer's request
5 for the purposes of providing information on benefits and
6 services available to veterans and their families, the bill
7 makes confidential the list of the names and addresses of
8 individuals allowed a credit under the bill and maintained
9 by the county recorder, county treasurer, county assessor,
10 city assessor, or other government body. The bill prohibits
11 this information from being disseminated to any person unless
12 otherwise ordered by a court or released by the lawful custodian
13 of the records pursuant to state or federal law. The county
14 recorder, county treasurer, county assessor, city assessor, or
15 other government body responsible for maintaining the names and
16 addresses of individuals allowed a credit may display the credit
17 on individual paper records and individual electronic records,
18 including display on an internet site.

19 The division requires the department of revenue, the
20 department of administrative services, county auditors, county
21 treasurers, and assessors to administer the disabled veteran tax
22 credit in a manner similar to the military service tax credit and
23 exemptions in Code chapter 426A.

24 The division makes any person who makes a false affidavit
25 for the purpose of obtaining the disabled veteran tax credit or
26 who knowingly receives the credit without being legally entitled
27 to the credit guilty of a fraudulent practice. A fraudulent
28 practice is punishable based on the amount of value involved, and
29 may range from a simple misdemeanor punishable by confinement for
30 no more than 30 days and a fine of at least \$105 but not more
31 than \$855, to a class "C" felony punishable by confinement for
32 no more than 10 years and a fine of at least \$1,370 but not more
33 than \$13,660.

34 The division appropriates from the general fund of the state
35 amounts necessary to fund the disabled veteran tax credit.

1 DIVISION IX — DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES — LICENSES AND
2 FEES. This division prohibits the department of natural resources
3 from requiring a veteran to pay a fee for camping and using
4 rental facilities at state parks and recreation areas. A veteran
5 who applies to register a vessel for use in Iowa waters shall
6 not be assessed a fee to receive the registration certificate.
7 A veteran applying for any hunting, fur harvester, or fishing
8 license is not required to pay the license fee nor the wildlife
9 habitat fee, if applicable. A veteran who was disabled or was
10 a prisoner of war shall not be assessed a fee in applying for
11 a lifetime fishing license and a lifetime hunting and fishing
12 combined license. A veteran may also obtain a lifetime trout
13 fishing license without paying a fee if the veteran is at least
14 65 years of age or qualifies for the disabled veteran homestead
15 credit, and the department of natural resources shall not require
16 any veteran to pay a trout fishing fee. The department of
17 veteran affairs shall assist the department of natural resources
18 in verifying the status and claims of the veterans applying for
19 recreational privileges for which fees are generally required.

20 DIVISION X — CIVIL LITIGATION BY VETERANS. This division of
21 the bill requires a court to, when able, grant a veteran bringing
22 a civil action or appeal priority over other actions brought by
23 other persons.

24 DIVISION XI — PERMIT TO CARRY WEAPONS FEES. This division
25 exempts a veteran who has a service-connected disability from
26 paying a fee for a permit to carry weapons. An initial permit
27 has a fee of \$50 and a renewal permit or duplicate permit has a
28 fee of \$25.