

Nebraska Veterans Coalition



Leading the way for Nebraska's Veterans

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A Volunteer Organization Bringing Awareness To Veteran's Issues

Volume 4, Issue 2, February1, 2023, Newsletter

[Go to our website to see previous issues of the Newsletter](#)

Dean Kenkel, Co-founder of Nebraska Veterans Coalition

This is about us:

The Nebraska Veteran's Coalition

The Coalition has led the way in Nebraska since 2014 to persuade the Nebraska Unicameral to enact legislation designed to improve the lives of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families to attract and retain Veterans as a means of increasing the size of the Nebraska Work Force. We continue to follow Nebraska state and federal veteran-related legislation along with joining several veterans group Facebook pages. We provide considerable information to veterans on various topics and guide them toward agencies that can help them.

If you are not already a member of our group of over 5,000 friends, please check us out on Facebook (Nebraska Veterans Coalition) and 'Friend' us. We also have a Twitter account - @VetsCoalitionNE. We are currently updating our *website containing both Nebraska and National News events and links to websites of interest to veterans.* <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/>,

Nebraska Veterans Coalition would like to invite you to visit our website and advertise as a veteran-owned business or business that hires veterans. Send your business card to the Webmaster and your business will be added as a supporter of the Coalition and is a free posting. Also, view our mission statement to learn more about us. <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/> Email this website's Webmaster CORNHUSKER69@yahoo.com

We are members of a program for the Nebraska Governor's Challenge managed by the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs. The Governor's Challenge has many states and territories participating in the challenge. They are working to develop and implement state-wide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, using a public health approach. SAMHSA has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) ([See Governors Challenge Section Below](#))

Our mission statement can be found on our Facebook or website

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Newsletter



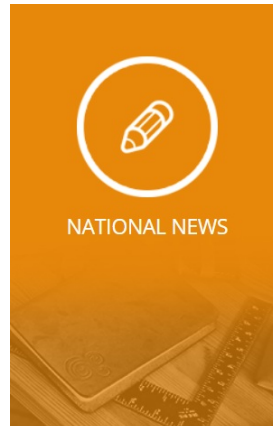
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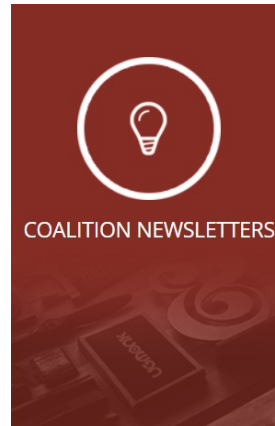
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Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>



• **Hilgert retained as state veterans affairs director**

Governor-elect Jim Pillen chose Veterans Day to announce that he will retain John Hilgert as director of the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs.

|

Benefits and Services Overview

Part of our mission is to help veterans identify and access benefits. There is a wide range of county, state, and federal benefits related to education, employment, finance, health care, housing, legal assistance, recreation, taxes, and more.

Use our Benefits Expert to help guide you to the benefits you're interested in or learn about some of the most-used benefits. If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to contact your County Veterans' Service Officer or a State Service Officer.

Nebraska Veterans' Gateway

Welcome to your gateway to career and employment resources for Nebraska veterans. We've gathered resources and tools to help shine the way for veterans and their families to find meaningful employment, receive training and education, and get assistance transitioning from military service to civilian life.

Nebraska Veterans' Homes

[Our Homes](#)

Nebraska's state veterans' homes offer top-of-the-line domiciliary, intermediate, and skilled nursing care for the men and women who have served our country, as well as eligible family members. The four homes are located in Bellevue, Norfolk, Kearney, and Scottsbluff to provide care to veterans across the state. Click on the homes below to learn more about them. Our homes offer top-of-the-line health services, a range of recreational activities, friendly communities for veterans and their families, and so much more. Click here to view our State of Nebraska Veterans' Homes brochure.

[Military & Veterans' Registry Application](#)

Applicants must submit a DD-214 or NGB-22 indicating the length and character of services.

- If the name of the DD-214 is different from the veteran's current legal name, documentation of the name change is required.
- If you are currently on active duty, please provide a military ID card. This does not include retirement ID cards or VA service cards.

A paper application is available if you prefer to mail in your application. Download Paper Application

[News & Events](#)

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/news>

Social media

NDVA Twitter https://twitter.com/NEVetsAffairs?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

VA Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System <https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaIowaVA/>

LEGISLATIVE

[Governor Pillen Announces Historic Tax Relief Bills](#)

January 18, 2023

CONTACT:

Laura Strimple, (402) 580-9495

John Gage, (531) 510-8529

Governor Pillen Announces Historic Tax Relief Bills

LINCOLN, NE – Today, Governor Jim Pillen, accompanied by several state senators including members of the Revenue Committee, announced six priority bills for the Legislative session aimed at transforming Nebraska's tax code, making our state's tax system more competitive with other states, improving workforce development, and providing parents and their children additional choices for education.

"Our current tax system fails to make Nebraska competitive," said Governor Pillen. "If we are going to attract and retain people, we need to modernize our tax code and provide Nebraskans with the tax relief they need. My proposals will reduce our property, income, and business taxes to spur economic growth so Nebraska can remain, for future generations, the best place in the country to work and raise a family."

Two of the bills aim to accelerate tax cuts passed by lawmakers during the last legislative session. **MORE:**

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/press/governor-pillen-announces-historic-tax-relief-bills>



Whenever possible, the simplest and most competitive tax policy is to have no tax at all.

And while it isn't realistic to completely eliminate property taxes in Nebraska, there are ways to take sizable chunks out of your bill by reducing how many different entities get to tax your property every year.

In most states, property taxes paid to community colleges are not much of an issue. Despite their name, community colleges are largely funded by states and the federal government, along with students themselves.

In Nebraska, community college property taxes are about 5% of the property tax problem. But as real estate values have risen, taxpayers have started noticing that share of their bill is adding up in real dollars.

Senators in Lincoln can assure that amount not only never rises again, but turns to zero, by repealing the community college property tax.

This year, the Platte Institute is supporting Sen. Dave Murman's LB783, which would end the local tax and move to a system that is mostly state-funded. Given how important community colleges are to Nebraska's economic and workforce goals, it makes sense for the Legislature to take on the same role it already has with other higher education institutions.

As it is, Nebraska's newest tax relief program commits the Unicameral to eventually credit taxpayers for more than 75% of the present cost of community college property taxes. Even students enrolled in a remedial math course could crunch the numbers necessary to cover the rest of the cost. We're almost there and lawmakers should finish the job.

It's a very good sign that policymakers are offering solutions that improve the way Nebraskans are taxed. We should always be willing to change when there's no strict reason for Nebraska to settle for the status quo.

Lots of states don't have community college property taxes, and in Nebraska, where community college areas cover large swaths of the state, having local accountability for community college taxing decisions is kind of unworkable.

A taxpayer living in Keya Paha County probably isn't going to attend Truth in Taxation hearings at the college headquarters in Madison County, even if property taxes are one of their major concerns.

And in other states where local taxes do make up a significant share of the funding pie, the idea of community colleges impacting your property tax bill very much can still be a non-issue. Often, colleges in other states don't have the authority to set their own tax rates, they might only be allowed to issue bonds for construction, or in some cases they rely solely on local sales tax funding.

Nebraska has explored reforming property taxes by changing state funding for K-12 education for a long time, and there's still a great opportunity to make progress in that area. But no matter how that debate shakes out, the state can make a large, permanent difference by pulling other parts of the property tax out by the roots.

Thanks for reading,

Jim

P.S. – You can explore this issue more by [checking out our latest report about why Nebraska should repeal the community college property tax.](#)

Jim Vokal

Jim Vokal, CEO of the Platte Institute and host of Nebraskanomics.

☐ It's time to stop the status quo. Let's remove economic barriers and make Nebraskans proud.

Platte Institute

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Legislative Calendar

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/legislative-issues>

Legislative Issues

2023 Legislative Session

The 108th Legislature, 1st Session, runs from January 4 to June 9, 2023.

2023 Military & Veterans Legislation Bill Tracker

2023 Legislative Tracker (1/27/23) <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/legislative-issues>

LB 535

Require valid photographic identification and change provisions relating to voting under the Election Act and certain identification documents

https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49990

LB 535 would define valid photographic IDs as documents issued by the State of Nebraska, the federal government or Native American tribes that meet certain standards. Among those standards, the name on the ID would have to conform to the name on a person's voter registration. Except for military, veteran or tribal IDs, the documents would have to have expiration dates and not have expired before the last general election. The documents would either have to have a photo of the person or an affidavit stating that the person has a religious objection to being photographed.

Under the bill, people voting by mail would have to provide their driver's license or state ID number or a copy of another acceptable ID when requesting a ballot and when returning it. People voting in person, including those voting early at an election office, would have to show their ID.

Anyone who showed up to vote without an ID could vote provisionally, but their vote would only be counted if they provided an acceptable ID to the county election office by the Tuesday following the election.

Under LB 535, the Department of Motor Vehicles would provide a free state ID to anyone without a Nebraska driver's license who needs an ID for voting. The bill also would provide a free birth certificate to people who need one to get an ID for voting.

**THE HEARINGS ON THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE CONDUCTED IN JANUARY
YOU CAN STILL SUBMIT AN ONLINE COMMENT BY OPENING THE LINK WITH EACH
BILL (See Tips to testify below)**

Call or write to your State Senator and express your opinion and request him/her vote to support or oppose each bill.

https://nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_find.php

Please read the bill or look at the statement of intent: Changes to bills are underlined or ~~crossed out~~

LB 4, 10, 52, 77, 188

LB 4 Change homestead exemption provisions relating to qualifications, applications requirements, and penalties
Revenue Committee

Introduced by Senator Sanders (District 45)

Hearing on 1/26/2023

Please read, https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49658

LB52 - Change the amount of tuition credits available to National Guard members

Introduced By: Senator Lippincott

Notice of hearing for January 25, 2023

https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49922

LB10 Change motor vehicle and property tax exemptions for disabled veterans

Introduced by Senator Blood

Committee: Revenue **Actions:** https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=50262,

Notice of hearing for January 26, 2023

LB77

Provide for carrying of concealed handguns without a permit, change provisions relating to concealed weapons, and prohibit certain regulations of weapons by cities, villages, and counties

Introduced by Senator Brewer

Committee:

Judiciary Committee

Actions: https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49710

Notice of hearing for January 26, 2023

LB188 - Authorize the Commissioner of Education to issue temporary certificates to teach veterans as prescribed

Introduced By: [Hansen, B.](#)

Committee: Education

Actions: https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=50331&mibextid=Zxz2cZ

Tips on Testifying at a Committee Hearing

The Hearing Process

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/about/testifying.php>

A committee may consider several bills during an afternoon. The committee chairperson determines the order in which bills will be heard, the rules for testifying, and whether there will be a time limit on your testimony. The length of time spent on each bill varies and depends largely on the number of people testifying, the length of their testimony, and the number of questions asked by committee members.

Usually, unless otherwise indicated, hearings begin at 1:30 p.m. Each bill is presented by the senator who sponsors it. After the sponsoring senator finishes his or her introduction, the committee chair typically will ask proponents of the bill to come forward individually and state their reasons for supporting the measure. Then, the chair will ask the bill's opponents to come forward and state their opinions. Often, committee chairpersons will allow individuals to testify in a neutral capacity.

If you want to testify before the committee, you will need to fill out the sign-in sheet at the witness table, orally identify yourself and spell your last name for the record, and state who, if anyone, you represent as you begin your testimony. It is important to remember that committee proceedings are transcribed verbatim.

Letters or written communications containing support, opposition, or neutral testimony also are accepted by committees during a bill's public hearing. Persons wishing to send written information should address their correspondence to the office of the senator who chairs the committee and ensure that the information arrives before the hearing.

Citizen Testimony

As a concerned citizen, there are several ways in which you may communicate effectively with your senator in an attempt to suggest or influence legislation. One way is to testify at a legislative hearing.

At public hearings, citizens have an opportunity within the time available to make their views known or have them incorporated into the official committee record. In Nebraska, gubernatorial appointments and most bills, with the exception of a few technical bills, receive a public hearing by one of the Legislature's committees. Generally, testimony on legislative bills is heard by one of the Legislature's 14 standing committees:

Each of these committees has seven to nine members.

Public hearings on bills typically are held in the afternoons during the first half of the legislative session. Committees have assigned hearing rooms and meeting days, although they sometimes meet at different times and places in order to accommodate witnesses or large audiences.

Visit the Legislative Calendar to see when hearings are scheduled. On the Hearing Schedule web page, you can download a PDF of the weekly hearing schedule or enter dates to create a hearing scheduled for print.

Testimony Tips

- Be aware that sometimes the sponsor of a bill will offer amendments when he or she presents the bill to the committee. These proposed amendments may change the way you feel about the bill and, thus, affect your testimony.
- Be prepared to limit your testimony and try not to repeat testimony offered by previous witnesses. Remember that while senators want to hear what you have to say, there are numerous witnesses who also want to be heard.
- Be prepared to answer questions asked by committee members.
- Most observers agree that, as a witness, you will be more effective in getting your message across if you have prepared your testimony in writing. If you do this, it is helpful to bring enough copies to distribute to all committee members, the two committee staff members, the media, and the transcribers' office. Fifteen copies is usually enough to accomplish this. If written testimony is lengthy, it can be distributed and summarized orally to conserve the committee's time.
- Addressing committee members or witnesses from the audience, public demonstrations, and applause are prohibited.
- You should not be offended if senators come and go during a hearing. They have other commitments, including the presentation of bills in other committees that are meeting simultaneously.
- If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for you to attend a hearing, please call the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature, (402) 471-2271, or if you have a hearing or speech impairment, please call the Ombudsman's Office at (402) 471-2035 or 800-742-7690. Advance notice of seven days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

Online database:

In order to facilitate public input on legislation, a new feature has been added to the Nebraska Legislature's website for the submission of written statements on pending legislation on the Legislature's website at any stage of the process.

(To access this feature, search for the bill you wish to submit a statement on and click the corresponding button near the top of the bill page.) This feature will appear once a bill has been scheduled for a public hearing.

Persons submitting comments online will have the option to request the comments be included in the official public hearing record as an exhibit if the comments are submitted and verified prior to 12:00 p.m. CST on the last work day prior to the public hearing.

If you have a position comment for the public hearing record on a gubernatorial appointment, an agency budget hearing, or an amendment scheduled for public hearing, go to the "Committees" heading on the left side of the home page. From there you will go to "Hearing Schedules" and select the specific hearing to find a link to submit online comments.

The hearing schedule may also be reached by going to the online calendar and selecting the date of the public hearing, then selecting "Hearing Schedules."

Widow's Tax' on Survivors Will Be Completely Gone as of Feb. 1 Benefit Checks

Feb. 1 benefits checks won't have the so-called "widow's tax" reducing income for the surviving [spouses](#) of military retirees who participate in two programs.

Until 2020, survivors couldn't receive the full amount of two survivor benefits at the same time. Under the rule known as the [Survivor Benefit Plan](#) (SBP) "offset," the government reduced payments that were part of that program by the amount of [Dependency and Indemnity Compensation](#) (DIC) that beneficiaries received from the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#). **MORE:**

<https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/2023/01/13/widows-tax-survivors-will-be-completely-gone-of-feb-1-benefit-checks.html>

Veterans Legislative Day

- ⇒ Legislative Day is Friday, February 3, 2023, in Warner Chamber at the State Capitol.
- ⇒ Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the event will begin at 8:30 a.m.
- ⇒ Anticipated guest speakers include Governor Jim Pillen, Director John Hilgert, and Nebraska State Senators.
- ⇒ The purpose is to discuss Nebraska Legislation pertaining to veterans and their families.
- ⇒ Sponsored by the Nebraska Veterans Council, which is made up of The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, County Veteran Service Officers Association, and the Marine Corps League.
- ⇒ Please contact your Veteran Service Organization for more information.

This is your chance to have some face time to guide your Senator to the Veterans bills that are important to you and other Veterans.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1313741188673585/permalink/5995447157169608/?mibextid=S66gvF>

New Congress has more military veterans, but representation still low

WASHINGTON — One of the largest cohorts of veterans in years is now on Capitol Hill.

Once the House chooses a speaker and members are sworn in, the 118th Congress will include 97 members with military experience representing 36 states. It is the biggest share of veterans in the legislature since 2015.

Among the 19 freshmen are Congress' first two Black graduates of West Point: Rep.-elect Wesley Hunt, R-Texas, and Rep.-elect John James, R-Mich. Both spent eight years in the Army, where they flew Apache helicopters. Hunt deployed once to Iraq and twice to Saudi Arabia, and James served multiple tours in Iraq.

Two women have also joined the veteran ranks, bringing the total number of former female service members in Congress to a record seven first set by the 116th Congress. Rep.-elect Jen Kiggans, R-Va., is a former helicopter pilot who served in the Navy for 10 years and deployed twice to the Persian Gulf. Rep.-elect Anna Paulina Luna, R-Fla., is an Air Force veteran who served as an airfield manager.

MORE:

<https://www.stripes.com/veterans/2023-01-06/congress-military-veterans-house-8669305.html#.Y7mcXB4nar1.mailto>

HEALTH CARE

Service Member & Veteran Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Group*



Tuesday Evenings,
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

February 21
through May 9, 2023

At Ease USA
10605 Burt Circle • Omaha, NE 68114

Groups will run for 90 minutes with a 10 minute break.

*DBT is used to treat traumatic stress-related issues, including PTSD. This class will improve your relationships, reduce emotional suffering, help manage anxiety and rediscover hope for the future. Class is free to military service members and is limited to 12 members. Workbook included.

AtEaseUSA.org

Contact: Beth Kramer
531-247-4040
or beth@ateaseusa.org to register

Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in suicidal crisis can go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for free emergency health care

Jan. 13, 2023, 09:02:00 AM

WASHINGTON – Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in acute suicidal crisis will be able to go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost – including inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days and outpatient care for up to 90 days. Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit.

This expansion of care will help prevent Veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to Veterans in times of crisis. It will also increase access to acute suicide care for up to 9 million Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA.

Preventing Veteran suicide is VA's top clinical priority and a top priority of the Biden-Harris Administration. This effort is a key part of VA's 10-year [National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide](#) and the Biden-Harris administration's plan for [Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide](#). In September, VA released the [2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report](#), which showed that Veteran suicides decreased in 2020 for the second year in a row, and that fewer Veterans died by suicide in 2020 than in any year since 2006.

MORE:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5852!>

[AtEase improve the mental health of our veterans Rural Areas](#)

AEU is expanding our Vets4Vets program not only in the metro area but in underserved rural communities throughout our vast service area. Our robust outreach efforts have helped connect clients to our network of therapists. With your help, we can continue to reach those struggling with the impact of PTSD and moral injury.

Because of your support, our momentum is growing! AEU is expanding our Vets4Vets program not only in the metro area but in underserved rural communities throughout our vast service area. Our robust outreach efforts have helped connect clients to our network of therapists. With your help, we can continue to reach those struggling with the impact of PTSD and moral injury.

Will you consider honoring those who have so bravely served our country? Your donation of \$112 will provide one hour of therapy to a veteran. A donation of \$50 will engage a group of veterans in an evening of discussion with their peers.

At Ease envisions a world where PTSD no longer exists, but until that day comes, we are committed to ensuring that our military and medical heroes have access to confidential trauma treatment. Your support helps make this vision a reality!

MORE: <https://ateaseusa.org/veterans-military-help/>



[Five Things to Know, Jan. 17, 2023](#)

The American Legion
Jan 16, 2023

All veterans in suicidal crisis can now get free mental health care from VA

1. [Starting Jan. 17, veterans in acute suicidal crisis will be able to go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost](#) – including inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days and outpatient care for up to 90 days. Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit. This expansion of care will help prevent veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to veterans in times of crisis. It will also increase access to acute suicide care for up to 9 million veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA.

MORE:

<https://www.legion.org/veteranshealthcare/257959/va-pay-all-emergency-mental-health-care-starting-next-week>

GOVERNORS CHALLENGE



Governor's and Mayor's Challenges to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families

SAMHSA has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to bring the Governor's and Mayor's Challenges to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) to states, territories, and communities across the Nation. For the Governor's Challenge, 52 states and territories are taking part in the challenge and are working to develop and implement state-wide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, using a public health approach. For the Mayor's Challenge, 22 communities were originally engaged as part of the challenge. Currently, 19 of those teams are still actively participating, and sixteen of the communities are within participating Governor's Challenge states. SAMHSA's SMVF TA Center is providing technical assistance for these initiatives.

Our Mission

One of SAMHSA's core missions is to provide current behavioral health data, research, and evaluation information to:

- Practitioners
- Health promotion specialists
- Policymakers
- Consumers

To support this mission, CBHSQ conducts research, evaluation, and data collection activities and provides information on the following topics and more:

- Alcohol and other drug use as well as mental health prevalence in the United States
- Mental and substance use disorder treatment facilities
- Behavioral health services, such as drug-related hospital emergency room visits

In addition, CBHSQ:

- Recommends a core set of performance metrics to evaluate activities supported by the Administration

- Coordinates with the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Chief Medical Officer, as appropriate, to improve the quality of services provided by contracted programs and the evaluation of activities carried out by the Administration

- Works with the National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory to collect information from program grantees to evaluate and disseminate information on evidence-based practices, including culturally and linguistically appropriate services, as appropriate, and service delivery models

- Improves access to reliable and valid information on evidence-based programs and practices, including information on the strength of evidence associated with such programs and practices, related to mental and substance use disorders

- Compiles, analyzes, and disseminates behavioral health information for statistical purposes

To learn more about CBHSQ activities, click here for CBHSQ's latest publications.

- <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-treatment>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/practitioner-training>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/public-messages>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/data>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/programs>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us>
- <https://store.samhsa.gov/>

Sign Up for SAMHSA Email Updates

<https://samhsa.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=d0780dc94825e65acd61c17dc&id=ee1c4b138c>

- To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Everyone knows about the federal benefits available to veterans, but did you know many states also offer great benefits to their veterans? State benefits range from free college and employment resources to free hunting and fishing licenses. Most states also offer tax breaks for their veterans and specialized license plates, and some states even provide their veterans with cash bonuses just for serving in the military.

We have compiled a handy summary of the benefits each state and territory offers. Each summary page also has a link directly to the specific State Department of Veterans Affairs, so be sure to check it out. There may be a benefit available to you or your family that you didn't know about!

Military benefits are always changing. Keep up with everything from pay to health care by [subscribing to Military.com](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html), and get access to up-to-date pay charts and more with all latest benefits delivered straight to your inbox.

MORE:

<https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html>



WoVeN Weekly Update: WoVeN in a Winter Wonderland!

We know how busy your lives are, so when you take an hour out of your week to hang out with us, we feel incredibly honored. Last night's meeting was no exception.

From some great conversations regarding the future of WoVeN to a fun closer, we had such a good time! Not only did we get some great ideas from these stellar Peer Leaders, but we also got to learn about their favorite holiday songs and treats!

We actually went slightly over time listening to holiday music, singing, laughing, and not wanting the jazziness to end!

Let us tell you, when Veterans don't want to log off the call, you know you had a great meeting!

To everyone that showed up for last night's call, we thank you for your time, energy, and contributions. You all are shining examples of what makes this organization truly <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-treatment> Thank you.

[WoVeN I Women Veterans Network I \(wovenwomens.org\)](https://www.wovenwomens.org/)

Use this form to sign-up for the WoVeN Newsletter and stay informed about upcoming events, member interviews, and more! <https://www.wovenwomens.org/>

The American Legion Department of Nebraska

P.O. Box 5205 Lincoln, NE, 68505-0205 402-464-6338

Department Commander Department Adjutant Don Suchy Dave Salak

NEWSLETTER

January 2023 Published monthly, except July

VETERANS' LEGISLATIVE DAY

This important event is on Friday, February 3, and begins at 8:00 a.m.
in the Warner Chamber just off the Rotunda.

Plans are to ask Governor Pillen and State Senators
to speak about proposed legislation that affects veterans.

PURPOSE OF THE MEMBER DATA FORM

The American Legion Member Data Form (MDF) is a multipurpose form for tracking and providing accurate information on Post members. You can download the form online or on our website. With the exception of transferring members from one post to another, most MDF changes can be made through MyLegion.org.

Note: Members can be transferred online through MyLegion.org if the member is paying their dues at the time of transfer.

The MDF can be used to report deceased members, continuous years, name corrections, address changes, branch of service, war era, and others.

On the MDF, always include the ninedigit member ID number, Post number, and Department name. The signature of the authorized Post officer is required at the bottom of the form. Be sure to mail part 1-3 to Department Headquarters

and keep part 4 for your Post files.

Membership transfer from one post to another is handled by completing the MDF. Always ask prospective members if they currently are or have been a member. If the veteran has a current or previous nine-digit ID number, it should be reported on the transfer. If a member signs up as a new member, a duplicate record can be created, and multiple renewal notices will be received by the member.

MORE: SEE THE COMPLETE NEWSLETTER [Dept Newsletter Jan2023.pdf \(nebraskalegion.net\)](#)



Our Mission

To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America." The American Legion's value principles are as follows:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN - which means The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities.

SELFLESS SERVICE - which means The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM - which means The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - which means The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities.

ADVANCING THE VISION - which means The American Legion educates, mentors and leads new generations of Americans.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US - which means The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations.

The American Legion's motto is "Veterans Strengthening America."

<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Find-a-Post>

<https://www.legion.org/vsa>

This month's **FEATURED COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER INFORMATION** *Extracted from*

Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

County Veterans Service Offices Directory 12/16/2022

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso>

CHEYENNE COUNTY

Service Officer Fred Wiedeberg (308) 254-3300 fwiedeberg@cheyennecounty.net

Secretary Rebecca Napier Fax: (308) 254-7349 rnapiere@cheyennecounty.net

Location Courthouse

Mailing Address 1000 10th Ave. Sidney, NE 69162

Hours Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Closed noon to 1:00 pm

Website <https://www.cheyennecountynet.net/veterans>

CLAY COUNTY

Service Officer Michael Irons (402) 762-3508 vso@clay.nacone.org

Location Elementary School Southeast Corner Fax: (402) 762-3506

Mailing Address 111 W. Fairfield, Clay Center, NE 68933

Hours Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Closed 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm

Website [Clay County Veterans Services \(ne.gov\)](https://claycountyveteranservices.ne.gov/)

Also CVSO for Hamilton County

COLFAX COUNTY

Service Officer Eric Mullally (402) 563-4914 pcvets@megavision.com

Admin Assistant Bev Brunkorst Fax: (402) 564-7460

Mailing Address 2610 14th St, Columbus, NE

Hours Monday – Friday 68601 8 am to 5 pm

Website: www.colfaxne.com/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.html

Also CVSO for Platte County



Heartland of America Chapter --

We Never Stop Serving -- -- We Are One Powerful Voice -- for Every Officer at Every Stage of Life and Career

Open the link below and see the Newsletter

The Bulletin Board is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's Take Action, Legislative Action Center, and other military-oriented sources. The material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same non-partisan policy as MOAA

(Open link for MORE <http://www.heartlandmoaa.us/>

[MOAA - MOAA Home Page](#)

[moaa homepage - Search \(bing.com\)](#)

New MOAA Member Benefit: Save on Everplans

MOAA's Transition Guide 2023: Tools You Can Use

Promises Fulfilled: Outgoing MOAA President Leaves a Lasting Legacy

Upcoming Events

NEWS AND INFO

ADVOCACY

MEMBER BENEFITS

RESOURCES

ABOUT MOAA

<https://www.facebook.com/moaa>

Intro

The professional association for military officers and their families at every stage of their life

<https://tinyurl.com/y4w37nw6>

NASA in 2023: A Look Ahead

In 2022, we made history. In 2023, we are preparing for our future by exploring the secrets of the universe. All for the benefit of humanity.

<https://www.aerotechnews.com/blog/2023/01/06/nasa-in-2023-a-look-ahead/>



SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline: March 1, 2023



<https://m.facebook.com/groups/241726414219258/permalink/708117817580113/?mibextid=IURqYx>



CENTER for
RURAL AFFAIRS

Unapologetically Rural

We are unapologetically rural. We stand up for the small family farmer and rancher, new business owner, and rural communities. For more than 40 years, we've been a leading force engaging people to build a better rural future. We live this work. Welcome to our rural revolution.

“The salvation of the state is in the watchfulness of the citizen.” — Hartley Burr Alexander

Last week marked the end of bill introduction in the Nebraska Legislature. Senators introduced 812 new bills and 31 resolutions during the 10-day period. Committee hearings begin this week. Each bill introduced will be scheduled for a hearing in one of 14 standing committees.

Working alongside the Center, Sen. Tony Vargas introduced [Legislative Bill \(LB\) 740](#), which would make it easier for food truck owners to obtain the necessary operating and inspection permits. Nebraska is currently operating under an outdated set of rules and regulations that were originally developed for brick and mortar restaurants. This bill proposes a set of changes that will streamline the permitting process and help food truck operators to more easily take advantage of their mobile nature and expand their markets. If you are a food truck owner and would like to offer support for this bill through written or in-person testimony, please contact me.

[Click here](#) for more information on the bills we are following, and to read our full update.

We value your input as we engage with the legislative process. If you would like to share your support, concerns, insights or opposition by providing testimony in-person, via letter or by visiting with your senator, please do not hesitate to contact me at carliej@cfra.org or 402.687.2100 ext. 1032.

Sincerely,

Carlie Jonas

Policy Associate

<https://www.cfra.org/?emci=84aa2ae8-1d9c-ed11-994c-00224832eb73&emdi=08540992-2c9c-ed11-994c-00224832eb73&ceid=3524086>

Nebraska Veterans Council (NVC)

The NVC is made up of members from The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of

America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Nebraska Association of Professional Veteran Advocates, and the Marine Corps League. The general purpose of this Council shall be charitable, benevolent, educational, civic, and patriotic in character, and its objectives to be:

To coordinate a statewide intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable organization for the purpose of all veterans, their dependents, and /or survivors of the State of Nebraska.

To provide a practical means by which veterans organizations throughout the state may effectively contribute to the betterment of all veterans and their dependents and survivors as follows:

a. State legislation affecting veterans and dependents and/or survivors.

b. Concern for the general programs for veterans and all veteran organizations represented,

including medical care, employment, and social activities.

c. To establish a system of public relations to inform the public on behalf of all veterans and veterans organizations. ting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Women Veterans CWV -

Center for Women Veterans (CWV)

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

Welcome, all women Veterans, family members, caregivers, and advocates! The Center for Women Veterans' (CWV) mission is to monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women Veterans. We serve as an advocate for cultural transformation and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect to #BringWomenVeteransHome2VA.

Today's VA is focused on the needs of women Veterans and cultural transformation. We aim to provide an environment free from harassment. VA has introduced White Ribbon, a national call to action to eliminate sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence. VA Secretary McDonough is making accountability of those who commit harassment or sexual assault an important part of creating a culture that is free from harassment and sexual assault, without fear of retaliation.

We are women Veterans proud to serve our sister Veterans and those who serve them. Stay in touch, sign up for email, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter @VAWomenVets. We share information on benefits

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

Women Veterans Outreach

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/outreach/index.asp>

We want to hear from women who have served in the military

In Case You Missed It: The Center for Women Veterans is sharing recent news stories that may interest women Veterans, military women, and their supporters every week. Share your thoughts about them on social media @VAWomenVets.

Women Veterans NOT using your earned VA Benefits & Services, we would love to hear from you. Please take our survey; it takes 5 minutes and is anonymous. <https://survey.voice.va.gov/?cwv-women-veterans>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 01/17/2023 09:00 AM EST

Live Whole Health #154" Aspirations instead of resolutions

#Live Whole Health #154" Aspirations instead of resolutions

Veteran manages diabetes with lifestyle changes

#VeteranOfTheDay Army, Navy, Marine Corps

VA studies employment gaps among post-9/11 women Veterans

01/15/2023 10:00 AM EST <https://tinyurl.com/52ft7t5z>

Association Between Availability of Women's Health Services and Women Veterans' Care Experience

Associations between deployment experiences, safety-related beliefs, and firearm ownership among women Veteran S

Delivered as Described: A Successful Case of Cognitive Processing Therapy With an Older Woman Veteran With PTSD

Delivered as Described: A Successful Case of Cognitive Processing Therapy With an Older Woman Veteran With PTSD

Exposure to potentially morally injurious events, disruption in assumptive world, moral injury symptoms, and psychological distress among Israeli female veterans

Gender Differences in Connecting Veterans to Care Through the Veterans Crisis Line: A Mixed C Methods Evaluation of Referrals to Suicide Prevention Coordinator

Identifying gaps in clinical evaluation and treatment of sleep-disordered breathing in women veterans Immunogenetics of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in women veterans

Post-9/11 deployment history and the incidence of breast cancer among women veterans

Prevalence of sexual desire and arousal difficulties among women veterans: A retrospective cohort design

Center for Women Veterans (CWV) Research for Women Veterans

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/research/index.asp>

On this page:

[Participate in VA Research](#) | [VA Reports and Research](#) | [Special Volumes](#) | [PubMed.gov Resources](#)

VA does not endorse and is not responsible for the content of any external website links. These sites are provided for informational purposes only.

Other Resources

VA Hotline on Health Care and Benefits for Women Veterans

1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)

VA Center for Women Veterans

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

VA's Women Veterans Quick Start Guide now available

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/79371/>

Women Veterans Issues

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/PERSONA/veteran-women.asp>

Women Veterans Health Care

<https://www.womenshealth.va.gov>

Homeless Women Veterans

https://www.va.gov/homeless/for_women_veterans.asp

Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation

<https://www.womensmemorial.org/>

VA creates National Women Veterans Oncology System of Excellence in fight against breast cancer

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5549>

V-WISE – Women Veterans Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship

<https://vwise.vets.syr.edu/>

U.S. Department of Labor Website for Women Veterans

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/womenveterans>

Lawmakers approved a change put forward by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, which establishes procedures for active or reserve members of the military to lead the Legislature in the daily Pledge of Allegiance. Currently, senators may invite clergy members to offer the opening prayer at the start of each legislative day, and the proposal the adopted 44-0, mirrors that system.

Following adoption of the McDonnell proposal and five additional technical changes, senators voted 44-0 to adopt the permanent rules.

Events



Come join us for a great meal!
Dannebrog NE
Legion Post 241

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 AT 11 AM

Patriotic Parade & Concert

Gene Leahy Mall

Already confirmed are 40 Marines of the USMC Marching Band, Fort Riley's Mounted Color Guard, and the "Rise Above" exhibit featuring the perseverance of the Tuskegee Airmen & Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). Accompanying the exhibit will be an original (restored) P-51C Mustang flown by the Tuskegee Airmen. Two tickets will be auctioned for the very rare flight in this aircraft over Omaha! More information will be posted on the website and Facebook page, including an entry application to participate in the parade.

<https://tinyurl.com/ykdv56cz>



Outreach and events

VA proudly works alongside others to connect Veterans to the benefits they've earned. Explore resources for our outreach partners such as Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs), and sign up for events. VA benefits can help Veterans and their families buy homes, earn degrees, start careers, stay healthy, and more. Join an event for conversation and information.

Displaying 1through–10 of 74 results for All g [Outreach & Events](#) | [Outreach Events](#) | [Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)



**American
Red Cross**

Military and Vetera
Caregiver Network

Online Caregiver Chat

When:

Wed. Feb 1, 2023, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm CT

Where:

This is an online event.

Cost:

Free

[Outreach And Events | Online Caregiver Chat | Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)

USEFUL LINKS

AMVETS

Blue Valley Community Action, Inc.

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership

DANTES Military Family Resources <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/FinancialAid/MilitaryFamilyResources.html>

DANTES provides no-cost education and career-planning programs <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

Disabled American Veterans <https://www.dav.org/>

Family Assistance Center <https://ne.ng.mil/FPO/Pages/FAC.aspx>

GI Bill Assistance <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

Homeless Program <https://www.va.gov/homeless/>

<https://www.va.gov/nebraska-western-iowa-health-care/>

Launch a New Cybersecurity Career <https://www.fedshirevets.gov/>

Marines helping Marines <http://marineshelpingmarines.org/>

Military Order of the Purple Heart <https://www.purpleheart.org/>

Military.com Veteran Jobs <https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs>

My Health Vet <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>

My VA facility and status updates <https://www.va.gov/>

Northeast Nebraska Community Action <https://nencap.org/>

One net online <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Paralyzed Veterans of America <https://pva.org/>

Parenting and Professionalism Parenting and Professionalism: The Myth of Having It All - ZERO TO THREE

Parents as Teachers, <https://parentsasteachers.org/>

Sesame street for military families <https://sesamestreetformilitaryfamilies.org/>

The American Legion <https://www.legion.org/>

Today's military life magazine <https://www.todaymilitary.com/military-life/futures-magazine>

Tricare <https://www.tricare.mil/>

US Small Business Administration homepage <https://www.sba.gov/>

VA benefits homepage <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

VA Contact Center <https://www.va.gov/contact-us/>

VBA eBenefits <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

Vet Center <https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

Veterans Affairs Health Administration (VHA) <https://www.nebraska.va.gov>

Veterans Affairs Health Administration (VHA) <https://www.nebraska.va.gov>

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) <https://www.vfw.org/Assistance>

Wounded Warrior Project <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

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