

Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

2025 Legislative Initiatives

In order to continue the programs that support Iowa veterans and their families, we support the protection of the financial integrity of the following agencies and programs:

- Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
- Iowa Veterans Home
- Iowa Veterans Cemetery
- Military Home Ownership Program
- Iowa Veterans Trust Fund
- County Allocation Funds
- Injured Veteran Grant Program
- Veterans License Fee Fund

TOP PRIORITIES

1. **Property Tax Relief:** We fully support Disabled Veterans rated 10% through 90% having their **property taxes offset** by the percentage of their United States Department of Veteran Affairs Disability Compensation Rating.
2. **Iowa Veterans Trust Fund Modernization:** We fully support revisions to Iowa Code 35A.13 that would raise the terminal balance of the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund from \$50 to \$75 million and continue the annual \$500,000 transfer from the Iowa Lottery **that supports the Commission's efforts to assist Iowa veterans in need.**
3. **IDVA Code Revision:** We fully support an update to Iowa Code that removes a single accrediting organization for training, the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, as the sole option for county VSOs, **allowing greater flexibility and options** with a number of additional organizations.
4. **Veterans Treatment Courts:** We fully support legislation to **establish and expand** Veterans Treatment Courts.
5. **Support Veteran Service Organizations:** We fully support proposals for **partial grants** to help maintain Veteran Service Organization officers and services currently co-located in downtown Des Moines.

AWARENESS ISSUES:

- A) We support any legislation that will improve **Mental Health** support and **Suicide Prevention** for our veterans, their families, and all Iowans.
- B) We support legislation that supports the needs of **homeless and under-served veterans.**
- C) We support legislation to align Iowa Code with Federal Code regarding the timing and manner of display of the **National League of POW/MIA families' flag** on all State of Iowa properties.
- D) We support full implementation of federal legislation **S.141-Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act**, which became law on 1/2/25.