

BIG FOUR

VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS



INDIANA'S VETERANS' VOICE CHAMPIONING VETERAN RIGHTS HOOSIERVETERANS.ORG

Legislative Priorities Summaries 2026 Legislative Session

1. In defining an Indiana Veteran's eligibility to receive Veteran's benefits from the State of Indiana remove all references to eminent danger pay, served during wartime, award of a service or campaign medal, hazardous duty, active duty or specific time periods of service.
2. The Hoosier Homeless Veterans Initiative (HVI) requires that homeless shelters in the state reserve at least 1 in 25 beds for single veterans that are experiencing homelessness regardless of separation status. The participating Veteran:
 - a. Maintains regular contact with their county Veterans Service Officer (VSO) or Veterans Affairs (VA) Liaison to ensure they are receiving appropriate benefits.
 - b. Completes a minimum of 10 hours of work a week, if unemployed the Veteran will volunteer at shelter in which they are housed.
 - c. Participates in Wraparound Services (Either through the VA or other Public Programs) for Mental Health and Substance Use Counseling, Job Training and Placement, and Educational Support Services.

The HVI program will provide a stipend to participating shelters of \$1000 per bed per month not to exceed \$36,000 per year (or 3 beds). The HVI Program participants will have a Maximum of 2 years to transition from a shelter to more permanent housing.

3. Claim Shark legislation: This bill provides that a person may not receive compensation for services related to veterans' benefits matters except as permitted under federal law. It also provides that a person may not receive compensation for referring an individual to another person to provide services related to veterans' benefits matters. It provides that a person seeking to receive compensation for services related to

BIG FOUR

VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS



INDIANA'S VETERANS' VOICE
CHAMPIONING VETERAN RIGHTS
HOOSIERVETERANS.ORG

veterans' benefits matters must, before rendering any services, memorialize in a written agreement that is signed by both parties and that complies with federal regulations, all terms regarding the payment of fees for services rendered. It provides that a person may not receive excessive or unreasonable fees for services related to veterans' benefits matters. A violation of the provisions of the bill constitutes a violation of the Indiana Consumer Law.

4. Tuition remission: All eligible children of disabled veterans should be entitled to 100% tuition and fee exemption at Indiana higher education schools. Remove served in the armed forces of the United States during a war or performed duty equally hazardous that was recognized by the award of a service or campaign medal of the United States Change the reside in Indiana at least five (5) years before the person first applies for an exemption to just one (1) year. If Indiana is serious about recruiting Veterans to the state this is a requirement.