

CHAPTER 107  
HB 64 - FINAL VERSION

04/17/2025 1478s

2025 SESSION

25-0044  
06/08

HOUSE BILL

**64**

AN ACT relative to extending hiring preferences for military members and their spouses to the state and private businesses, and establishing purchase preferences for disabled veterans and military spouses regarding state supply purchases.

SPONSORS: Rep. Roy, Rock. 31; Rep. Creighton, Hills. 30; Rep. Edwards, Rock. 31; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4; Rep. Rhodes, Ches. 17; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23

COMMITTEE: State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill expands the definition of veteran for purposes of veteran hiring and employment preferences to include a veteran's spouse and any active duty service member regardless of length of service. This bill also extends employment preferences for veterans or their spouse to include veteran-owned suppliers of goods and services in dealings with the state.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five*

AN ACT relative to extending hiring preferences for military members and their spouses to the state and private businesses, and establishing purchase preferences for veterans and their spouses regarding state supply purchases.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 107:1 New Paragraph; Adding Definition. Amend RSA 21:50 by inserting after paragraph IV the  
2 following new paragraph:

3 V. "Military spouse" means an individual who is legally married to an active duty member of the  
4 armed forces and is a cardholder in the defense enrollment eligibility reporting system (DEERS).

5 107:2 New Section; Products and Services of Veterans and Military Spouses. Amend RSA 21-I by  
6 inserting after section 19-j the following new section:

7 21-I:19-k Products and Services of Disabled Veterans and Military Spouses. Notwithstanding any  
8 other provision of law to the contrary, whenever products or services of veterans with service-connected  
9 disabilities or military spouses are available, the director of procurement and support services may  
10 purchase the same at their fair market value in accordance with the following:

11 I. The director shall determine the fair market price on all suitable products manufactured or  
12 services rendered by service-connected disabled veteran-owned businesses or military-spouse owned  
13 businesses and offered for sale to the state or any of its agencies. The director shall revise such prices  
14 from time to time, in accordance with changing market conditions, and shall adopt such rules regarding  
15 specifications, time of delivery, and other relevant matters as are necessary to carry out the provisions of  
16 this section. At the request of the director of procurement and support services, the adjutant general shall  
17 assist the director in distributing requests for goods and services of service-connected disabled veterans  
18 or military-spouses among approved agencies for veterans and military families.

19 II. If products or services are available for procurement from any department or agency of the  
20 state, and procurement therefrom is required by the provisions of any other section of this chapter or any  
21 other law, procurement of such products shall be made in accordance with such other provisions of law.

22 III. In this section:

23 (a) "Military spouse-owned business" means a business that is at least 51 percent owned by  
24 one or more military spouses, or in the case of a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company or  
25 other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest is owned by one or more military spouses,  
26 and both the management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more military spouses,  
27 which is incorporated under the laws of this state, and which manufactures merchandise and provides  
28 services within the state and which is approved for such purpose by the director of the division of  
29 procurement and support services.

30 (b) "Service-connected disabled veteran" means a veteran who has an injury, illness, or  
31 disability incurred or aggravated while in the line of duty in the armed forces of the United States and is

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1 entitled to disability compensation for those injuries, illnesses, or disabilities under the laws administered  
2 by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

3 (c) "Service-connected disabled veteran-owned business" means a business that is at least  
4 51 percent owned by one or more service-connected disabled veterans or, in the case of a corporation,  
5 partnership, or limited liability company or other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest  
6 in the corporation, partnership, or limited liability company or other entity is owned by one or more  
7 individuals who are service-connected disabled veterans and both the management and daily business  
8 operations are controlled by one or more individuals who are service-disabled veterans, which is  
9 incorporated under the laws of this state, and which manufactures merchandise and provides services  
10 within the state and which is approved for such purpose by the director of the division of procurement and  
11 support services.

12 107:3 Veterans' Preference Employment Policy Definitions. Amend RSA 275-G:1, III to read as  
13 follows:

14 III. "Veterans' preference employment policy" means a private employer's policy for hiring or  
15 promoting a veteran, *an eligible service member, or a military spouse* over another qualified applicant or  
16 employee.

17 107:4 New Paragraphs; New Definitions. Amend RSA 275-G:1 by inserting after paragraph III the  
18 following new paragraphs:

19 IV. "Eligible service member" means a service member on active duty.

20 V. "Active duty" shall have the same meaning as RSA 21:50, III.

21 VI. "Military spouse" shall have the same meaning as RSA 21:50, V.

22 107:5 Adding Military Spouses to Public Employment Preferences. Amend chapter 99-F title to read  
23 as follows:

CHAPTER 99-F

VETERANS', [AND] DISABLED VETERANS', *AND MILITARY SPOUSES'* PREFERENCE IN PUBLIC  
26 EMPLOYMENT

27 107:6 Veterans' Preference in Public Employment. Amend RSA 99-F:1 to read as follows:

28 99-F:1 Veterans' *and Military Spouses'* Preference in Public Employment. The state of New  
29 Hampshire shall grant a preference in hiring to veterans, [and] disabled veterans, *and military spouses*.

30 107:7 New Paragraphs; Definitions. Amend RSA 99-F:2 by inserting after paragraph III the following  
31 new paragraphs:

32 IV. "Eligible service member" means a service member on active duty.

33 V. "Veteran or disabled veteran" shall include an eligible service member's military spouse.

34 107:8 Public Defense and Veterans' Affairs; Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services;  
35 New Hampshire National Guard Enlistment and Reenlistment Incentive Program Established. Amend  
36 RSA 110-B:60 to read as follows:

37 110-B:60 New Hampshire National Guard Enlistment and Reenlistment Incentive Program  
38 Established. For the purpose of encouraging enlistment and reenlistment in the national guard there is  
39 hereby established a New Hampshire national guard enlistment incentive program. This program

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1 authorizes a cash incentive up to \$1000 to current members of the New Hampshire national guard in the  
2 pay grades of E-1 to O-3 or any former member of the New Hampshire national guard for each new or  
3 prior service recruit that they bring into the New Hampshire national guard. The program also authorizes  
4 a cash incentive up to \$6,000 to current members of the New Hampshire national guard who are not  
5 eligible for a federal reenlistment bonus and who reenlist for service in the New Hampshire national guard,  
6 *or who reclassify into a critical, unfilled vacancy.*

7 107:9 Verification of Eligibility. Amend RSA 275-G:3 to read as follows:

8 275-G:3 Verification of Eligibility. A private employer may require that a veteran submit [a  
9 Department of Defense DD Form 214, report of separation,] *any qualifying document under RSA 21:50* in  
10 order to be eligible to receive the preference under RSA 275-G:2.

107:10 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: June 23, 2025  
Effective Date: August 22, 2025