

## **Utah State Legislature 2008 Legislative Summary**

The legislature passed the following bills dealing with veterans and disability issues:

- HB 45, Employment Services for People with Disabilities. It makes the initial pilot program into a permanent program, which provides employment services.
- HB 118, Veterans High School Diplomas. It allows a Board of Education to award honorary high school diplomas to certain veterans.
- HB 129, appropriations for capital construction. The bill appropriates \$19.7 million for FY08-9 to construct a veterans' nursing home in Ogden.
- HB 271, Utah Purple Heart Recipients Tuition Act Amendments. It provides a graduate tuition waiver for Purple Heart recipients under specified conditions.
- HB 427, Hunter Education Requirement Exemption for Military Personnel. Exempts certain military personnel from a practical shooting test requirement of an approved hunter education class.
- HJR 4, which urges the state Board of Education to close public schools on Veterans' Day. The bill has been filed with the Lt. Governor's office and is awaiting signature.
- SB 247, veterans procurement provisions, which appropriated general funds monies for FY08-09 only, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to assist veterans and their families to get the benefits and services currently available to them.

Defeated legislation:

- HB 158, Tax Credit for Retired Military Pay. The bill enacted a nonrefundable tax credit military retired pay. The Senate Rules Committee struck clause to enact, and therefore the bill was defeated.
- HB 279, which would have amended the TAX Act and provided incentives to military members. It passed in the House, but was tabled in the Senate and therefore filed as defeated.