

HB 454 -- Gulf War Medallion Program

Sponsor: Smith (14)

This bill establishes the Gulf War Medallion Program within the Office of the Adjutant General. Every veteran who honorably served anytime between August 2, 1990, and November 30, 1995, is entitled to receive a Gulf War medallion, medal, and a certificate of appreciation if the veteran is or was a legal resident of Missouri when he or she entered or was honorably discharged from military service or was in active service in an honorable status at the time of his or her death. Any spouse or eldest living survivor of a deceased veteran who is entitled to the medallion may receive it on behalf of the deceased veteran.

Applications for the medallion can be filed with the Office of the Adjutant General at any time after January 1, 2010. Medallions will be awarded until the supply is exhausted, and the Adjutant General must notify the General Assembly when the supply of medallions is less than 100.

The Gulf War Veterans' Recognition Award Fund is created and will be administered by the Adjutant General. The fund will consist of gifts, donations, bequests, and moneys transferred to the Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Trust Fund from any remaining balances in the World War II Veterans' Recognition Award Fund, Korean Conflict Veterans' Recognition Award Fund, and Vietnam War Veterans' Recognition Award Fund. The moneys in the fund will be used to solicit designs for and to manufacture and distribute the medallions, medals, and certificates. Any moneys in the fund cannot be transferred to the General Revenue Fund at the end of the biennium, and any interest earned will be credited to the fund.