



SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY BASE TASK FORCE



VETERANS POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE GOVERNOR'S REPORT

JUNE 11, 2018





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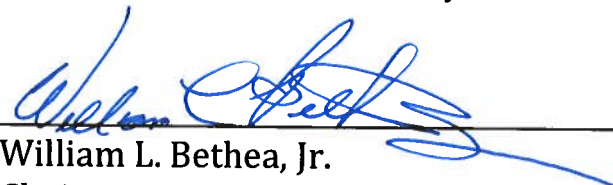


To: His Excellency Henry D. McMaster, Governor of South Carolina
and
The South Carolina Military Base Task Force

Pursuant to Executive Order 2016-24 (See Schedule A) the South Carolina Veterans Advisory Committee (VPAC) held its organizational meeting on June 6, 2017. VPAC continued its monthly meetings throughout 2017 and into 2018, receiving extensive background information and recommendations from a distinguished and diverse group of presenters outlined on Schedule C. Further deliberations included a ranking of those recommendations in order to determine the perceived priority in which the findings should be addressed to achieve the most immediate benefit to the veteran community.

The committee does hereby respectfully submit the following initial findings and recommendations to the Governor and the South Carolina Military Base Task Force this the 11th day of June, 2018.

South Carolina Veterans Advisory Committee

By: 
William L. Bethea, Jr.
Chairman





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Preliminary List of Legislative Initiatives for 2019

Similar to

(S.107) Designate the S.C. Division of Veterans Affairs as the Department of Veterans Affairs within the Executive Branch of State Government.

(S.109) Drone Restrictions near Military Bases.

(H.3104/S.62) Military Retirement Income Exemption
Also Act 272 (2016)

(H.3035) In-State Tuition for Veterans, Spouses and Children related to residency issues.

(H.3685) Compliance with the S.C. Uniform Veterans Act
Corrective language to bring Act in compliance with previously passed Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act.

(H.3919) S.C. Service Members Civil Relief Act
Updates provisions that have been added to the Federal Act since 2003.

(H.4078) Military Priority Registration Act
To provide priority course enrollment for military related students.

Note: Needs to expand scope to also cover “Remote Enrollment” as per 2019 DOD Top 10.

(H.5146) Add Naval Criminal Investigative Service Agents in South Carolina to the list in Section 23-1-212(A) of Federal Law Enforcement Offices authorized to enforce the State’s criminal laws.



SCHEDULE A

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2016-24

On September 26, 2016, Governor Nikki Haley established the South Carolina Veterans Policy Advisory Committee with Executive Order 2016-24. This committee shall act as an advisory committee to the South Carolina Military Base Task Force for the purpose of analyzing the contributions and needs of veterans in the state of South Carolina. In conducting its work, the Veterans Policy Advisory Committee shall solicit testimony from veterans in making policy recommendations and shall report its recommendations to the Governor and the South Carolina Military Base Task Force not less than annually.

SCHEDULE B

VPAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

William L. Bethea, Jr, Chairman

Col (Ret) Dan Beatty

Major General (Ret) George Goldsmith

Lt General (Ret) Jack Klimp

Col (Ret) Barry Wingard

Senator Thomas McElveen

Representative Shannon Erickson

Major General Robert Livingston

Sergeant Major (Ret) Howard Metcalf

Cheryl Stanton, Director, SC Dept of Employment and Workforce

Sara Goldsby, Director, SC Dept of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services

John Magill, Director, SC Dept of Mental Health

Beverly Buscemi, Director, SC Dept of Disabilities and Special Needs

Todd Humphries, Ex Officio, President, SC Association of County Veterans Affairs Officers

SCHEDULE C

2017 VPAC PRESENTERS

Mark Hammond, Secretary of State

David Omura, Director, Dorn VA Medical Center

Dwight Bradham, VAO Aiken County

Ann Shippy, Women's Veterans Memorial

Grey Parks, Dept of Employment and Workforce

LTC Marion Bulwinkle, Director, SC National Guard Service Member and Family Care

MG Van McCarty, Deputy Adjutant General, SC National Guard

Elisabeth Kovacs, Commerce Workforce Development

John Magill, Director, Department of Mental Health

Beverly Buscemi, Director, Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

Sara Goldsby, Director, Department of Drug Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services

Stanley Foremen, Office of Veterans Affairs

James Brown, SC Veterans Advocacy Council

Ron Rhames, President, Midlands Technical College

Leanne Weldin, Regional Director, Veterans Benefit Administration

Howard Metcalf, Director, SC Veterans Affairs

Todd Humphries, President, SC Association of County Veterans Affairs Officers