

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
  
16  
17

H.104

Introduced by Representatives Page of Newport City, Coffin of Cavendish,  
Demar of Enosburgh, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of  
Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Hooper of Burlington,  
Kascenska of Burke, Keyser of Rutland City, Lipsky of Stowe,  
Morrissey of Bennington, Oliver of Sheldon, Quimby of  
Lyndon, and Wells of Brownington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; health care; energy; public assistance benefits;  
eligibility; veterans' disability benefits

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to exclude  
veterans' disability benefits from an applicant's income for the purpose of  
making eligibility determinations for public assistance programs or benefits, to  
the extent not already excluded.

An act relating to excluding veterans' disability benefits from income-based  
eligibility determinations for public assistance programs or benefits

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 \* \* \* Electricity and Natural Gas Efficiency Entity \* \* \*

3 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 209(d) is amended to read:

4 (d) Energy efficiency.

5 \* \* \*

6 (4) Contract or order of appointment. Appointment of an entity under  
7 subdivision (2) of this subsection may be by contract or by an order of  
8 appointment. An appointment, whether by order of appointment or by  
9 contract, may only be issued after notice and opportunity for hearing. An order  
10 of appointment shall be for a limited duration not to exceed 12 years, although  
11 an entity may be reappointed by order or contract. An order of appointment  
12 may include any conditions and requirements that the Commission deems  
13 appropriate to promote the public good. An order of appointment shall require  
14 that any program operated, or benefit issued by the entity, exclude a veteran's  
15 disability benefit from the calculation of the individual's taxable income as  
16 defined by 32 V.S.A. § 5811(21) or the individual's adjusted gross income as  
17 defined by 26 U.S.C. § 62, respectively, for the purpose determining eligibility.  
18 For good cause, after notice and opportunity for hearing, the Commission may  
19 amend or revoke an order of appointment.

20 \* \* \*

1                   \* \* \* Department for Children and Families \* \* \*

2           Sec. 2. 33 V.S.A. § 125 is added to read:

3           § 125. VETERANS' DISABILITY BENEFITS; EXCLUDED INCOME

4           Any State program or benefit administered or operated by the Department  
5           shall exclude a veteran's disability benefit from the calculation of the  
6           individual's taxable income as defined by 32 V.S.A. § 5811(21) or the  
7           individual's adjusted gross income as defined by 26 U.S.C. § 62, respectively,  
8           for the purpose determining eligibility.

9                   \* \* \* Department of Vermont Health Access \* \* \*

10          Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 405 is added to read:

11          § 405. VETERANS' DISABILITY BENEFITS; EXCLUDED INCOME

12          Any State program or benefit administered or operated by the Department  
13          shall exclude a veteran's disability benefit from the calculation of the  
14          individual's taxable income as defined by 32 V.S.A. § 5811(21) or the  
15          individual's adjusted gross income as defined by 26 U.S.C. § 62, respectively,  
16          for the purpose determining eligibility.

17                 \* \* \* Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living \* \* \*

18          Sec. 4. 33 V.S.A. § 506 is added to read:

19          § 506. VETERANS' DISABILITY BENEFITS; EXCLUDED INCOME

20          Any State program or benefit administered or operated by the Department  
21          shall exclude a veteran's disability benefit from the calculation of the

1 individual's taxable income as defined by 32 V.S.A. § 5811(21) or the  
2 individual's adjusted gross income as defined by 26 U.S.C. § 62, respectively,  
3 for the purpose determining eligibility.

4 \* \* \* Effective Date \* \* \*

5 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.