



STATE SENATOR **KEN HORN**

2021 **MEMORIAL DAY**



A Grateful Nation Remembers



HORN SUPPORTS SENATE RESOLUTION 10 TO HONOR BLUE STAR MOTHERS

The Michigan Senate adopted a resolution to commemorate Feb. 1, 2021 as Blue Star Mother's Day in recognition of their service to our state and nation.

Blue Star Mothers of America was founded in Flint in 1942 to support the mothers of children in active service. Among their many patriotic contributions, Blue Star mothers welcome home returning veterans, visit wounded veterans in hospitals and rehabilitation centers, assist in veterans' ceremonies and perpetuate the memory of the men and women who have served our country.

SENATE REMEMBERS OUR FALLEN

After a pause in 2020, on Tuesday, June 15, at 10:15 a.m., the Senate will resume its tradition of hosting a special Senate Memorial Day service. The service will pay tribute to the Michigan servicemen and servicewomen who have given their lives in service to our country. We owe so much to the patriots who answered our nation's call of duty to protect our lives at the cost of their own.

This annual event ensures our fallen heroes' legacy of honor and sacrifice is never taken for granted or forgotten. This year the event will be held on the Capitol lawn where social distancing and other health guidelines can be followed.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.



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HORN GIVES UPDATE ON NEW LAWS

Public Act 51 of 2020 creates a special recognition Blue Star Family license plate for families of active duty military personnel. This Blue Star Family license plate joins the list of other special recognition plates for Ex-Prisoner of War, World War I veteran, Pearl Harbor survivor, Purple Heart Medal recipient, and Gold Star Family.

Public Act 79 of 2019 extends a previous exemption within the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act for active military serving outside the United States to include all active duty military regardless of service location. This exemption extends a reduction of the dormancy periods for unclaimed property for all service members.

Public Acts 350 and 351 of 2020 make necessary changes to the law to ensure proper management of the two existing veterans homes - the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans, and the soon-to-open Southeast Michigan Veterans Home in Chesterfield Township - under the authority of the Michigan Veterans' Facility Authority (MVFA). The MVFA was established in 2016 as a result of audits and legislative hearings to manage a comprehensive system that is responsive to veterans' long-term care and aging needs.

HORN SUPPORTS BILLS TO EXTEND STUDENT LOAN DEDUCTION FOR DISABLED VETS

The Michigan Senate unanimously passed a measure sponsored by Sen. Tom Barrett to allow some disabled veterans to continue to deduct their student loans.

Senate Bill 25 would allow totally and permanently disabled veterans to continue to deduct the amount of their student loans from their taxable income after the federal requirement allowing the practice ends.

Under federal law, discharged student loan debt is not currently taxed at the state level. SB 25 would continue this practice by requiring the state to allow eligible veterans to deduct the amount of the discharged loan from their AGI provided it was not excluded at the federal level.

The bill retroactively applies to discharged loans taxed in 2017 (before the federal provision took effect) and will apply to 2016 loans as well if the bill is signed into law before April 15.

SB 25 now heads to the Michigan House for further consideration.

