



United Veterans Coalition of Colorado
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UNITED VETERANS COALITION OF COLORADO 2020 State Legislative Goals

This document contains the UVC 2020 State policy and legislative goals unanimously approved during the United Veterans Coalition of Colorado (UVC) General Meeting on Nov. 12, 2019.

General Policy and Specific Legislative Goals:

General Policy Goals provide broader policy guidance to enable the UVC to take positions on specific bills during the session in advance of a vote of our members, and to provide guidance to elected officials on the UVC's likely position on specific legislative proposals. Both General and Specific Goals are updated throughout the legislative session by a vote of the UVC membership.

Specific Legislative Goals are detailed proposals related to actual or proposed legislation.

General UVC 2020 State Policy Goals:

1. Support continued, and enhanced funding of programs and benefits provided through multiple State agencies to address the needs of Colorado's veterans, military personnel, members of the National Guard, Reserves, and their families.
2. Support legislation and funding to support aging and disabled veterans care and mental health and suicide prevention.
3. Support efforts to address veteran homelessness, including affordable housing, livable wages, drug prevention, mental health care and suicide prevention, job and career training, and education.
4. Support federal and state executive agency and/or legislative actions that address women veteran issues.
5. Support legislation and funding to increase job training, entrepreneurship, recruitment, counseling and placement for veterans transitioning to civilian life.
6. Support legislation that furthers, in tangible and meaningful ways, Colorado being recognized as a veteran and military welcoming, supportive and inclusive state.

Specific UVC 2020 State Legislative Goals:

1. Support creation of a Colorado state income tax exemption for recipients of Department of Defense (DoD) Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) payments.
2. Support establishment of a state women's veteran program and/or coordinator position within the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
3. Support authorization and funding for the operation and expansion of Veterans Courts so they are available to eligible veterans statewide.
4. Support legislation allowing private employers to give preference to veterans when hiring and retaining employees so long as the veterans are equally as qualified as other individuals.
5. Support legislative authorization to provide competitive wages for dietary, housekeeping and maintenance staff at the state Veterans Community Living Centers.
6. Support a study by CDHS to determine the need for veteran's community living centers, adult daycare, memory care and/or domiciliary care in El Paso County and NE Colorado.