

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5601**

A bill to amend 1967 PA 150, entitled
"Michigan military act,"
by amending section 182 (MCL 32.582).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 182. **(1)** The governor as ~~commander in chief, commander-~~
2 **in-chief** may prescribe the award of medals and other suitable means
3 of public recognition for distinguished service, longevity, acts of
4 valor, or meritorious achievement. The awards may be made to
5 members of the organized militia of this state or to other
6 individuals, **who are** not members of the organized militia, who have
7 rendered appropriate service to the military establishment. The
8 adjutant general shall develop and publish rules to carry out this
9 ~~provision.~~**subsection.**



1 (2) The adjutant general is authorized to award, in the name
2 of the legislature, the "Michigan Vietnam veteran recognition
3 certificate". The adjutant general, in consultation with the
4 director of the Michigan veterans affairs agency, shall develop and
5 publish rules to carry out this subsection. All of the following
6 apply to the certificate:

7 (a) An individual may be awarded the certificate if the
8 individual meets all of the following requirements:

9 (i) The individual is a citizen of this state or was a citizen
10 of this state while serving in the Armed Forces of the United
11 States.

12 (ii) The individual was honorably discharged or released under
13 honorable circumstances.

14 (iii) The individual served during the Vietnam War era.

15 (b) The certificate created under this subsection also
16 includes the option of a special designation, as developed by the
17 department of military and veterans affairs, recognizing
18 individuals who were exposed to dioxin or phenoxy herbicides during
19 their service. To receive this designation, an individual must
20 demonstrate in a form and manner prescribed by the department of
21 military and veterans affairs that while serving in the Armed
22 Forces of the United States, he or she was exposed to dioxin or
23 phenoxy herbicides, as evidenced by a medical diagnosis of a
24 disease associated with dioxin or phenoxy herbicides and any other
25 proof required by the adjutant general.

26 (c) An individual shall not be awarded more than 1
27 certificate.

28 (d) If the certificate recipient is deceased, the certificate
29 may be presented to a designated representative of the deceased.



1 (3) As used in this section:

2 (a) "Armed Forces of the United States" means the United
3 States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard,
4 including the Michigan National Guard and reserve components.

5 (b) "Certificate" means the Michigan Vietnam veteran
6 recognition certificate.

7 (c) "Vietnam War era" means the period beginning on February
8 28, 1961 and ending on May 7, 1975.

