

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 208

BY SENATOR CATHEY

VETERANS. Directs the Department of Veteran Affairs to submit a report annually to the Legislature outlining the length of time between discharge of military and a claim for services.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To direct the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report to the
3 Legislature of Louisiana detailing the length of time between a veteran's discharge
4 from military service and the filing of a claim for services.

5 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the importance of ensuring that
6 all veterans of the United States Armed Forces receive timely access to the benefits, services,
7 and support to which they are entitled; and

8 WHEREAS, understanding the time interval between a veteran's discharge from
9 military service and the filing of a claim for services is essential to identifying barriers to
10 access, improving outreach, and strengthening the delivery of veterans' programs throughout
11 the state; and

12 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs (LDVA) is the state
13 agency charged with assisting veterans in securing federal and state benefits, providing
14 advocacy, and ensuring that veterans and their families receive appropriate support; and

15 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that regular reporting on claim-filing timelines will
16 assist policymakers in evaluating service gaps, improving program effectiveness, and
17 ensuring that Louisiana's veterans receive the highest standard of care; and

18 WHEREAS, it is both appropriate and necessary for the legislature to receive annual

1 data that will support informed decision-making and enhance the state's commitment to
2 those who have served.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
4 does hereby direct the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report
5 to the legislature no later than February 1 of each year, beginning in 2027, detailing:

6 (1) The average length of time between a veteran's discharge from military service
7 and the filing of a claim for services.

8 (2) The distribution of claim-filing intervals across all veterans served.

9 (3) Any identified trends, barriers, or factors contributing to delays in filing.

10 (4) Recommendations for improving timely access to veterans' services.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall be submitted to the Senate
12 Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs and the House Committee on Veterans and
13 Military Affairs, and shall be made available to all members of the legislature.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
15 Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

SR 208 Original

DIGEST
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Cathey

Directs the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report to the Legislature detailing the length of time between a veteran's discharge from military service and the filing of a claim for services.