



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Committee Bill No. 6948

LCO No. 4784

04784HB06948VA_

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Introduced by:

(VA)

**AN ACT CONCERNING STOLEN MILITARY VALOR AND
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 53-378 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) Any person, other than an officer or enlisted man or woman of
4 the armed forces, [of the United States,] as defined [by] in section 27-
5 103, or any reserve component thereof, or of [this] the state, as defined
6 [by] in section 27-2, or a member of a school or college military or
7 naval organization, organized, uniformed and drilling as such, or [an
8 inmate] a resident of any veterans' or soldiers' home, or a police officer,
9 who, at any time, wears the uniform, or any part of the uniform, of any
10 of said armed forces, reserve components or organizations, [units or
11 services,] within the state, shall be fined not less than [one] five
12 hundred dollars [nor] or more than [five hundred] one thousand
13 dollars or imprisoned not more than six months, or both, provided
14 nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting any person
15 having been honorably discharged from any of said armed forces,
16 reserve components or organizations [, units or services] from wearing

17 [his] the person's uniform in accordance with the laws of the United
18 States or the state and the regulations governing any of said armed
19 forces, reserve components or organizations, [units or services,] or any
20 person taking part in any play, opera, theater or other entertainment
21 from wearing such uniform while actually engaged in such
22 entertainment.

23 (b) Any person who falsely represents himself or herself, orally or in
24 writing, to have been awarded any decoration or medal authorized by
25 the United States Congress for the armed forces, as defined in section
26 27-103, or any of the service medals or badges awarded to the
27 members of such armed forces, or the ribbon, button or rosette of any
28 such decoration, medal or badge, or any colorable imitation thereof,
29 shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars or more than one
30 thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

31 Sec. 2. Section 52-571 of the general statutes is repealed and the
32 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

33 Any person who subjects or causes to be subjected any other person
34 to the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities usually
35 enjoyed by the public, on account of membership in the armed forces
36 of [this] the state, as defined [by] in section 27-2, or [of the United
37 States] the armed forces, as defined [by] in section 27-103, or on
38 account of the wearing of the uniform of any such [service] armed
39 forces, or who, on account of such membership or the wearing of such
40 uniform, deprives any other person of the full and equal enjoyment of
41 any advantages, facilities, accommodations, amusement or
42 transportation, subject only to the limitations established by law and
43 applicable alike to all persons, or who, on account of such membership
44 or the wearing of such uniform, [discriminates in] increases the price
45 for the enjoyment of any such privileges, shall [forfeit and pay to the
46 person injured thereby double damages, to be recovered in any court
47 of competent jurisdiction within this state] be fined not less than five
48 hundred dollars or more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not

49 more than six months, or both.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	53-378
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	52-571

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) increase penalties for fraudulent use of a military uniform and discrimination against members of the armed forces, and (2) establish penalties for false claims of receipt of military medals.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. GRAZIANI, 57th Dist.

H.B. 6948