



Senate Bill 11

Blue Star and Gold Star Families

Blue Star Families

Spouses and dependents of an active-duty service members or veterans.

Gold Star Families

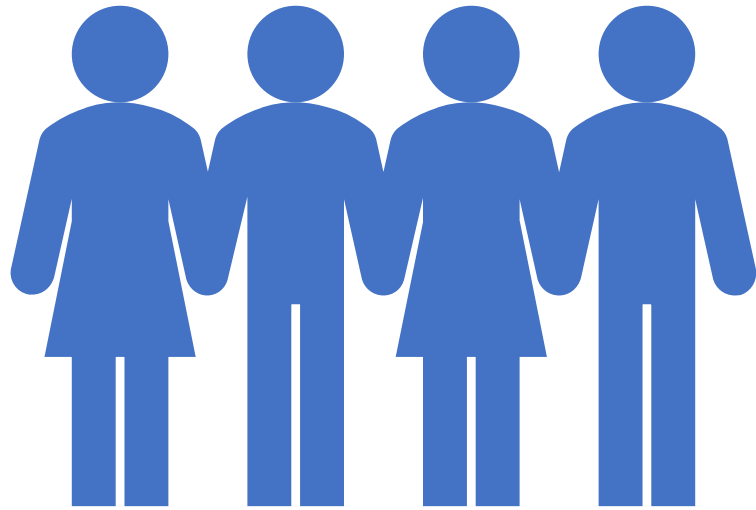
Spouses and dependents of a deceased member who died while in active duty.

The last Sunday in September—is designated as "Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day" by an annual presidential proclamation.

What

SB11 Will extend current state hiring preferences to military spouses and dependents. It will also extend liability protections to the private sector to include spouses and dependents.





Why?

Military spouses are among the highest unemployed and underemployed group in the United States, despite their education or experience.

9 out of 10 military spouses are women.

Top 3 Challenges

- Unemployment – The number of unemployed military spouses averages at more than 40%.
- Underemployment – Low pay. Research shows that military spouses with a college degree earn 40% less than their counterparts. A study from Syracuse University found that 90% of female spouses of active-duty members reported they were underemployed
- Frequent moves – Spouses and dependents move constantly, resulting in employment gaps, lack of networking

24 States provide Veterans' Preferences to Spouses or Surviving Spouses

Alabama	Arizona	Arkansas	California	Colorado
Connecticut	Delaware	District of Columbia	Florida	Idaho
Illinois	Kentucky	Louisiana	Maine	Minnesota
Nevada	New Jersey	North Dakota	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania
South Dakota	Texas	Utah		

Questions?