

SCS HCS HB 978 -- VIETNAM WAR MEDALLION PROGRAM

This bill establishes the Vietnam War Medallion Program. Every veteran who honorably served during this war is entitled to receive a Vietnam War medallion, medal, and a certificate of appreciation if the veteran is or was a legal resident of Missouri when he or she entered or was discharged from military service or at the time of his or her death. Any spouse or eldest living survivor of a deceased veteran who is entitled to the medallion may receive it on behalf of the deceased veteran.

The Adjutant General will administer the program. Applications for the medallion can be filed with the Office of the Adjutant General at any time after January 1, 2007. Medallions will be awarded until the supply is exhausted. The Adjutant General must notify the General Assembly when the supply of medallions is less than 100.

The bill creates the Vietnam War Veterans' Recognition Award Fund which will be administered by the Adjutant General. The fund will consist of gifts, donations, and funds transferred to the Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Trust Fund from any remaining balances in the World War II Veterans' Recognition Award Fund and the Korean Conflict Veterans' Recognition Award Fund. The moneys in the fund will be used to solicit designs and to manufacture and distribute the medallion, medal, and certificate.