

House Engrossed Senate Bill

~~liquor sampling; reporting; requirements~~
(now: impersonation; veteran; armed forces)

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

SENATE BILL 1424

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 24, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 13-2414; RELATING TO OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 13, chapter 24, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by adding section 13-2414, to read:

4 13-2414. Impersonating a veteran; classification; definitions

5 A. A PERSON COMMITS IMPERSONATING A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES
6 ARMED FORCES IF THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO BE A
7 VETERAN AND ENGAGES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDUCT WITH THE INTENT TO
8 OBTAIN MONEY, PROPERTY OR ANY TANGIBLE BENEFIT:

9 1. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO BE A VETERAN OF
10 ANY BRANCH OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT HAVING
11 SERVED IN THAT BRANCH AS AN ENLISTED SERVICE MEMBER, WARRANT OFFICER OR
12 COMMISSIONED OFFICER.

13 2. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO BE A RECIPIENT
14 OF A DECORATION, MEDAL, BADGE OR TAB THAT WAS NOT LAWFULLY EARNED THROUGH
15 MILITARY SERVICE.

16 3. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO HAVE GRADUATED
17 FROM A MILITARY SCHOOL FROM WHICH THE PERSON DID NOT GRADUATE OR TO HAVE
18 OBTAINED A RATING OR MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY THAT THE PERSON DID
19 NOT OBTAIN.

20 4. THE PERSON FALSELY CLAIMS ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
21 ACADEMIES OR SCHOOLS:

22 (a) UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

23 (b) UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY.

24 (c) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY.

25 (d) UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY.

26 (e) UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY.

27 (f) UNITED STATES MARINE CORP AND UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT
28 MAJORS ACADEMY.

29 (g) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE CHIEFS COURSE.

30 (h) UNITED STATES NAVY SENIOR ENLISTED ACADEMY.

31 (i) ALL OTHER MILITARY BRANCH SCHOOLS THAT PRODUCE AN ADDITIONAL
32 SKILLS IDENTIFIER QUALIFICATION, INCLUDING RANGER, SEAL, RECON OR SPECIAL
33 FORCES.

34 5. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO BE A COMBAT
35 VETERAN.

36 6. THE PERSON FALSIFIES OR ALTERS MILITARY DOCUMENTS OR RECORDS.

37 7. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO HAVE RECEIVED A
38 CHARACTERIZATION OF DISCHARGE THAT THE PERSON DID NOT RECEIVE.

39 8. THE PERSON KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTS THEMSELVES TO BE A VETERAN
40 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION IN THE FURTHERANCE OF A CAMPAIGN FOR POLITICAL
41 OFFICE.

42 B. CERTIFIED SEPARATION DOCUMENTS FROM THE APPLICABLE UNIFORMED
43 SERVICE OR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORD ADMINISTRATION THAT SUPPORT
44 THE PERSON'S CLAIMS CONSTITUTE A COMPLETE DEFENSE TO PROSECUTION. BEFORE
45 FILING A COMPLAINT OR SEEKING AN INDICTMENT, A PROSECUTING AGENCY SHALL

1 OBTAIN FROM THE APPLICABLE UNIFORMED SERVICE OR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND
2 RECORD ADMINISTRATION A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE PERSON'S SEPARATION
3 DOCUMENTS OR SHALL RECEIVE NOTICE THAT SUCH DOCUMENTS DO NOT EXIST.

4 C. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ACTORS OR ACTRESSES WHO PLAY A
5 VETERAN IN CONJUNCTION WITH A ROLE IN A PRODUCTION INTENDED FOR
6 ENTERTAINMENT OR TO INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.

7 D. IMPERSONATING A VETERAN IS A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR, EXCEPT THAT
8 IMPERSONATING A VETERAN IS A CLASS 6 FELONY IF THE BENEFIT OBTAINED HAS A
9 VALUE OF AT LEAST \$50,000.

10 E. IF A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF A CLASS 6 FELONY PURSUANT TO THIS
11 SECTION, SECTION 13-604 DOES NOT APPLY.

12 F. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

13 1. "COMBAT VETERAN" MEANS A CURRENT OR FORMER MEMBER OF THE
14 UNIFORMED SERVICES WHO SERVED IN A LOCATION WHERE THE RECEIPT OF IMMINENT
15 DANGER PAY OR HOSTILE FIRE PAY WAS AUTHORIZED.

16 2. "TANGIBLE BENEFIT" MEANS FINANCIAL REMUNERATION, AN EFFECT ON
17 THE OUTCOME OF A CRIMINAL OR CIVIL COURT PROCEEDING, OR ANY BENEFIT
18 RELATING TO SERVICE IN THE MILITARY THAT IS PROVIDED BY A FEDERAL, STATE
19 OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.

20 Sec. 2. Applicability

21 A person who is convicted of an offense pursuant to section 13-2414,
22 Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, is subject to all
23 applicable penalties and provisions of law, including disqualification
24 from public office as provided by law.

25 Sec. 3. Short title

26 This act may be cited as the "Master Sergeant Orlando Dona Valor
27 Act".