

Senate Engrossed House Bill
processing arrestees; veteran status

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HOUSE BILL 2226

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE 7, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 13-3904; RELATING TO ARREST.

(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 38, article 7, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 13-3904, to read:

4 13-3904. Veteran status; procedure

5 A. AT A PERSON'S INITIAL APPEARANCE HEARING, THE COURT SHALL
6 INQUIRE OF THE PERSON'S STATUS AS A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED
7 FORCES. THE PERSON'S RESPONSE REGARDING THE PERSON'S VETERAN STATUS MAY
8 NOT BE USED AGAINST THEM IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS UNLESS THE PERSON FALSELY
9 ATTESTS THAT THEY ARE A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

10 B. IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT A PERSON IS A VETERAN OF THE UNITED
11 STATES ARMED FORCES, THE COURT SHALL NOTIFY THE PROSECUTING AGENCY OF THE
12 PERSON'S VETERAN STATUS.

13 C. ON NOTIFICATION FROM THE COURT, UNLESS THE PERSON IS CHARGED
14 WITH A DANGEROUS OFFENSE UNDER SECTION 13-704, A SERIOUS OFFENSE OR
15 VIOLENT OR AGGRAVATED FELONY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 13-706 OR A DANGEROUS
16 CRIME AGAINST CHILDREN AS DEFINED IN SECTION 13-705, THE COURT SHALL
17 PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE PERSON REGARDING SERVICES THAT ARE PROVIDED BY
18 THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES AND THE PROSECUTING AGENCY SHALL
19 CONSIDER REFERRING THE PERSON TO THE VETERANS COURT OR ANOTHER APPROPRIATE
20 TREATMENT COURT OR DIVERSION PROGRAM.

21 D. IF A PERSON'S STATUS AS A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED
22 FORCES IS IN QUESTION, THE PROSECUTING AGENCY SHALL GIVE THE PERSON OR THE
23 PERSON'S ATTORNEY AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE THE PERSON'S VETERAN STATUS
24 THROUGH OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
25 DEFENSE FORM 214 (DD-214) INDICATING THE PERSON'S RELEASE OR DISCHARGE
26 FROM ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.