

HOUSE BILL NO. 6277

September 29, 2020, Introduced by Reps. Markkanen, LaFave, Glenn, Howell, Afendoulis and Berman and referred to the Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security.

A bill to amend 1967 PA 150, entitled
"Michigan military act,"
(MCL 32.501 to 32.851) by adding section 183.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 183. (1) Under the Michigan military department state
2 awards program established under section 182(2), the legislature
3 may award the Michigan legislative medal of honor.

4 (2) The Michigan legislative medal of honor is the highest
5 military award of this state. All of the following apply to this



1 medal:

2 (a) A resident of this state who is a service member of the
3 state military establishment or the Armed Forces of the United
4 States may be considered for the award. To be eligible, the service
5 member must have been born or died in this state, or have been a
6 resident of this state at the time he or she entered military
7 service.

8 (b) The medal must be awarded to a service member who
9 voluntarily performs a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice
10 involving risk of life that is so conspicuous as to clearly
11 distinguish the service member for gallantry and intrepidity above
12 the service member's comrades. Awarding of the medal must be
13 determined in accordance with the standard of extraordinary merit.
14 The medal may be awarded only on incontestable proof of performance
15 of the deed.

16 (c) The adjutant general shall submit the following
17 information to the chairs of the house of representatives and
18 senate committees that have responsibility for military and
19 veterans affairs:

20 (i) If the adjutant general determines that a nominee does not
21 qualify for the medal, the name of the nominee and the reasons why
22 the nominee does not qualify for the medal.

23 (ii) If the adjutant general determines that a nominee does
24 qualify for the medal and the adjutant general recommends the
25 nominee for the medal, his or her recommendation, the nomination,
26 and any supporting documents.

27 (d) The medal is awarded upon passage of a concurrent
28 resolution of the legislature. The resolution may be considered
29 only during a regular session of the legislature and must not,



1 during a single regular session, direct the medal to be awarded to
2 more than the following:

3 (i) One member of the state military establishment or the Armed
4 Forces of the United States who served during the period beginning
5 January 1, 1836, and ending December 31, 1955.

6 (ii) One member of the state military establishment or the
7 Armed Forces of the United States who served on or after January 1,
8 1956.

9 (e) Upon passage of the resolution described in subdivision
10 (d), the speaker of the house of representatives and the majority
11 leader of the senate shall award the medal in the presence of the
12 governor, the sponsoring legislator or legislators, and the
13 representative and senator of the district where the awardee
14 resides.

15 (f) If the legislature determines that a recommendation does
16 not meet the standards for awarding the medal, the legislature may
17 do either of the following:

18 (i) Determine that the recommendation meets the threshold for
19 awarding the Michigan Great Lakes medal of valor under section 184.

20 (ii) Determine that the recommendation meets the threshold for
21 another state award under section 185 that is commensurate with the
22 deed performed and recommend to the adjutant general the awarding
23 of that award.

24 (3) As used in this section:

25 (a) "Armed Forces of the United States" means the United
26 States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard,
27 including the reserve components.

28 (b) "Service member" means a member of the state military
29 establishment, that of another state, or the Armed Forces of the



1 United States.

2 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
3 unless all of the following bills of the 100th Legislature are
4 enacted into law:

5 (a) Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 6279 (request no.
6 03568'19).

7 (b) Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 6278 (request no.
8 04969'19).

9 (c) Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 6276 (request no.
10 05062'19).

