



Arkansas House Newsletter

May 24, 2024

Honor and Remember



Memorial Day signifies more than just the unofficial commencement of summer. It is a day to pause, reflect, and honor the countless individuals who have laid down their lives in defense of our freedoms. Their selflessness and courage epitomize the very essence of patriotism, reminding us of the extraordinary debt we owe to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Within our state lies a profound legacy of patriotism and sacrifice. The Gold Star Family Memorial Monument is positioned directly behind our State Capitol. On the Capitol's front lawn, stands a memorial commemorating the Arkansans who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

These memorials serve as a constant reminder of the Arkansas families who have borne extraordinary burdens. The Arkansas General Assembly strives not only to honor their legacy on Memorial Day but to acknowledge their sacrifice by tending every day to their fellow comrades who served.

The Arkansas General Assembly has diligently worked to support military families and veterans throughout the year. In 2017, the General Assembly exempted military retirement benefits from state income tax. In

2023, we broadened educational options for military families and passed legislation aimed at streamlining the occupational licensing process for military personnel and their families.

Furthermore, we've taken steps to ensure that veteran disability benefits are not considered as income for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility. Moreover, we've designated June 12 as Women's Veterans Day in Arkansas.

Our commitment to enhancing the lives of our military families and veterans remains steadfast, and our efforts will persist. While the extended weekend offers a chance for relaxation, let us never lose sight of the true essence of this day. In honoring the past, we are reminded of the principles that bind us together and the perpetual obligation to uphold them.