

Arkansas Veterans Coalition 2015 Legislative Session Initiatives

Senate Committee on Children and Youth
House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative & Military Affairs
Meeting Jointly
10 September 2014

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Workforce and Economic Development Impact

Objectives

- **Attract** and retain skilled, disciplined and loyal workforce
- **Eliminate** reasons veterans go elsewhere to launch their second career
- **Capitalize** on military retiree and other veterans' leadership experience, discipline, technical skills and entrepreneurial spirit
- **Target** access to new federal transfer dollars to the Arkansas economy (uniformed services retired pay, survivor benefit program annuity, VA-funded health and benefit payments)

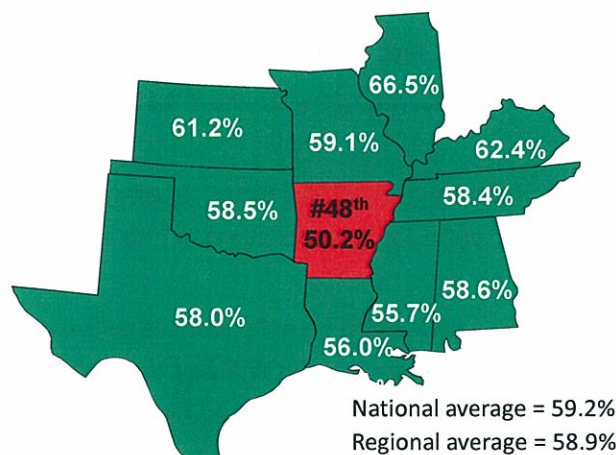
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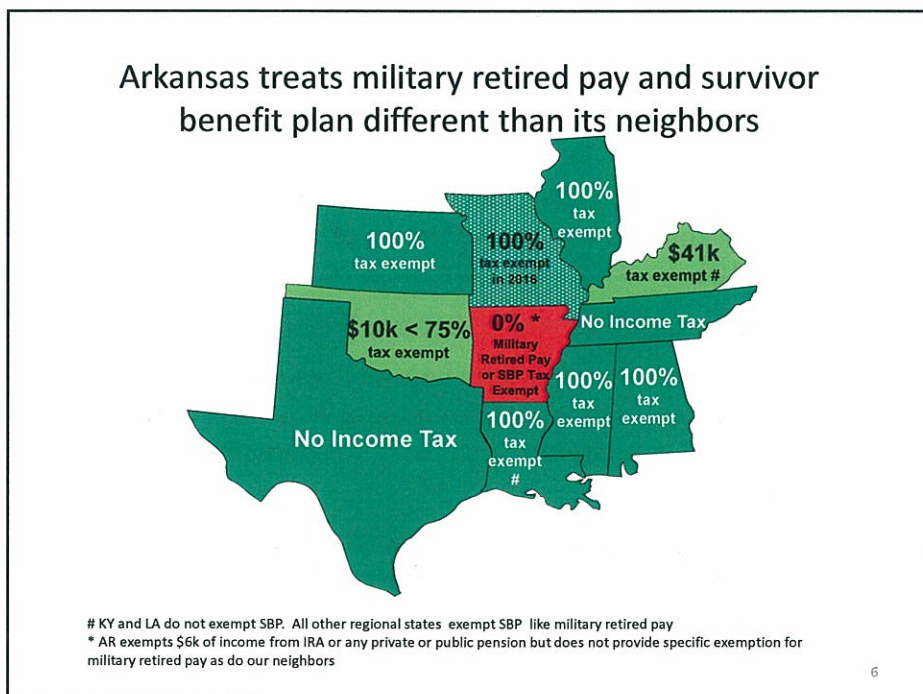
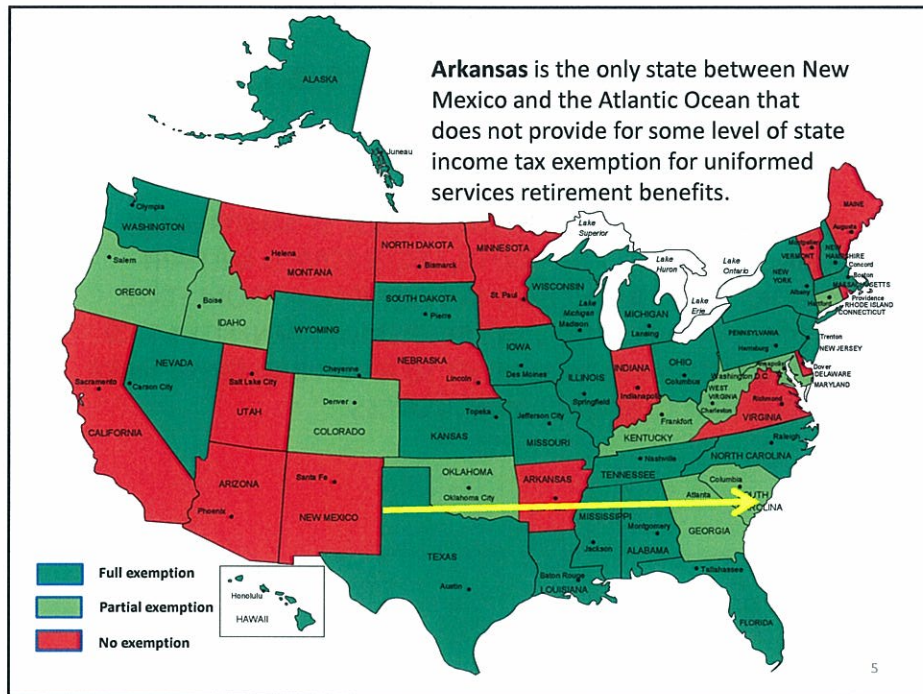
- **Boost** workforce and economic development opportunities through state income tax exemption of uniformed services retired pay
- **Ensure** statewide access to Veterans Treatment Courts
- **Extend** resident tuition rates beyond Arkansas and eliminate local residency prerequisites for instate moves to attract and retain service members, veterans and their families
- **Direct** programming, planning, operations and oversight of a veterans state home network based on projected needs of Arkansas' most at-risk veterans

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Arkansas attracts the **lowest percentage** of working age active duty military retirees in our region



Source: DoD Office of the Actuary <http://actuary.defense.gov> and 3 feb 14 email w/FY13 data in advance of FY13 annual rpt 4



Interim Study Proposal 2013-190

REQUESTING THAT THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS STUDY AN INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FROM STATE INCOME TAX AFFECTING THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS MADE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO A VETERAN OR MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

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