



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
**JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF  
 VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

101 N. 14TH ST, 17<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
 RICHMOND VA 23219

Air Force Association  
 American Legion  
 AMVETS  
 Association of the United States Army  
 Disabled American Veterans  
 Fifth Baptist Church Veterans' Ministry  
 Fleet Reserve Association  
 Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America  
 Korean War Veterans Association  
 Legion of Valor of the U.S., Inc.  
 Marine Corps League  
 Military Order of the Purple Heart  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 Military Order of the World Wars  
 Navy Mutual Aid Association  
 Navy Seabee Veterans of America  
 Non-Commissioned Officers Association  
 Paralyzed Veterans of America  
 Reserve Officers Association  
 Roanoke Valley Veterans Council  
 Veterans of Foreign Wars  
 Vietnam Veterans of America  
 Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association  
 Virginia National Guard Association  
 Women Marines Association

## Summary of 2020 JLC Policy Initiatives

*Each policy paper can be accessed at: <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/joint-leadership-council-veterans-service-organizations-2>*

<i><b>Initiative</b></i>	<i><b>Recommendation</b></i>
<b>JLC 2020-01</b> <i>2nd Resolution – Personal Property Tax Exemption</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly approve legislation, and send to the voters via ballot initiative, creating a standardized, statewide personal property tax exemption for one vehicle for 100% service-connected, total and permanent disabled veterans.
<b>JLC 2020-02</b> <i>Counting Military Absentee Ballots After Election Day</i>	That the General Assembly enact and the Governor sign legislation that directs Virginia registrars receive and count military overseas absentee ballots postmarked on or before election day and which arrive by 5:00 p.m. on the second business day before the State Board of Elections meets to certify the results of the election.
<b>JLC 2020-03</b> <i>Income Tax Subtraction for Certain Low-Income 100% Disabled Veterans</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly approve an individual income tax subtraction for 100% service-connected disabled veterans with a federally adjusted gross income, not exceeding 150% of the federal poverty level for a four-person household, who have not already claimed another exemption.
<b>JLC 2020-04</b> <i>Virginia National Guard Emergency Response Pay</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly appropriate budget and legislative support to ensure that all Virginia National Guardsmen are paid at least at the E6 rate when they are called to SAD in emergency situations.
<b>JLC 2020-05</b> <i>Tax Credits for Employers who Hire VNG and Reserves</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly approve Tax credits for employers of National Guard members and self-employed National Guard members.
<b>JLC 2020-06</b> <i>Microloans for Veterans Program (MVP)</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly provide an appropriation in the amount of \$1,000,000 in FY20 and \$1,000,000 in FY21 for the Microloan for Veterans Program fund.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Letters of Support</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>In 2019, the JLC voted to show support for four issues via letters of support rather than inclusion in the formal list of policy initiatives</i></p>
<p><i>Governor’s Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and Their Families</i></p>	<p>The JLC hopes that focus on this important issue in Virginia will lead to potential cutting-edge solutions and policies. We stand ready to assist the Governor and the members of this Challenge in any way needed. As a starting place, at our April 17 meeting, we voted unanimously on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make a commitment to pass out the cards from the Governor’s challenge;</li> <li>2. Put the information about the Governor’s Challenge and presentation on suicide prevention in VSO newsletters; and</li> <li>3. Send a formal letter through the Chairman to the Governor supporting the Challenge and committing to support its’ efforts.</li> </ol>
<p><i>Funding for new Care Centers in biennial budget</i></p>	<p>The JLC fully supports providing the funding necessary to open and operate our two new veterans care centers – the <b>Puller Veterans Care Center</b> and the <b>Jones &amp; Cabacoy Veterans Care Center</b> – and requested the Governor include it in his introduced biennial budget for FY21-22. The JLC has always, and will continue to, support our commonwealth-run veterans care centers.</p>
<p><i>Commonwealth Connect - Universal Broadband Access for Virginians</i></p>	<p>The JLC supports the Governor’s efforts to fund VATI with \$50M in funding to help Virginia’s progress towards universal broadband access. Several member VSOs have signed on as Commonwealth Connect Coalition partners.</p>
<p><i>Virginia National Guard Scholarship</i></p>	<p>The JLC supports the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs efforts for a Virginia National Guard Scholarship program to fully cover Guardsmen seeking a degree or certification in Virginia to bring Virginia in line with other states’ National Guard benefits.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Each letter will be posted to the JLC website after submission to the Governor and Secretary of Veterans &amp; Defense Affairs</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/joint-leadership-council-veterans-service-organizations-2">https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/joint-leadership-council-veterans-service-organizations-2</a></p>