



# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature  
First Regular Session

## **HB 2030: impersonation; veteran; armed forces**

**Sponsor: Representative Blackman, LD 7**

**Committee on Federalism, Military Affairs & Elections**

### **Overview**

Establishes the offense of *impersonation of a veteran of the armed forces*.

### **History**

A person convicted of a first-time felony offense must be sentenced within the following range:

- 1) for a class 4 felony, between 1 and 3.75 years depending on mitigating and aggravating circumstances;
- 2) for a class 3 felony, between 2 and 8.75 years depending on mitigating and aggravating circumstances;
- 3) for a class 2 felony, between 3 and 12.5 years depending on mitigating and aggravating circumstances ([A.R.S. § 13-702](#)).

### **Provisions**

1. Specifies a person commits *impersonation of a veteran of the armed forces* if the person knowingly pretends to be a veteran with the intent to induce another to submit to their pretended authority or to rely on the person's pretended official acts, while doing any of the following:
  - a) attempting to obtain employment or government contracts, secure votes, campaign contributions or political advantages or claiming veteran benefits;
  - b) wearing, displaying or claiming entitlement to any award in any branch of the United States armed forces;
  - c) falsifying or altering military documents, including certificates of release or discharge and personnel files; or
  - d) falsely wearing, for personal benefit, any combat-related or special skills badges and tabs not lawfully earned through military service. (Sec. 1)
2. Clarifies that it is not a defense that the veteran the person pretended to be does not actually exist or that the pretended veteran did not actually possess the authority claimed. (Sec. 1)
3. Requires a person serving as a state, county, municipal or district elected official at the time of conviction to be removed from office within 10 days after sentencing. (Sec. 1)
4. Classifies *impersonation of a veteran of the armed forces* as a class 4 felony. (Sec. 1)
5. Classifies *impersonation of a veteran of the armed forces* as a class 3 felony if the offense involves a benefit with a value of between \$5,000 and \$10,000. (Sec. 1)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

6. Classifies *impersonation of a veteran of the armed forces* as a class 2 felony if the offense involves a benefit with a value of at least \$50,000. (Sec. 1)
7. Specifies a person convicted of a class 2 felony offense in violation of this law, except for inmate work, temporary release for compassionate leave or early release credits otherwise established by law, is ineligible for suspension of a sentence, probation, pardon or release from confinement on any basis until the sentence imposed by the court has been served or the sentence commuted. (Sec. 1)
8. Entitles this act as the *Master Sergeant Orlando Dona Valor Act*. (Sec. 2)