



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Walt Blackman (R-7)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Legislature Passes the Stolen Valor Act

Rep. Blackman Applauds Final Passage, Thanks Supporters for Standing with Veterans

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The Arizona Legislature today passed SB1424, the Stolen Valor Act, a tough new law that criminalizes the fraudulent use of military service or honors for personal benefit. The bill now heads to the Governor for signature.

Sponsored and championed in the House by Representative Walt Blackman, a U.S. Army combat veteran, SB1424 makes it a crime to knowingly lie about military service or awards to obtain jobs, government benefits, or other privileges meant for veterans.

“The Stolen Valor Act is about protecting the integrity of service, sacrifice, and the sacred bond between our state and those who’ve worn the uniform,” said Representative Blackman. **“Today, Arizona draws a clear line: if you falsely claim the honor of military service, there will be consequences.”**

The legislation was drafted in response to growing reports of individuals falsely claiming military honors, wearing unearned medals, or misusing veteran status for financial gain. It strengthens Arizona’s ability to prosecute stolen valor cases at the state level, reinforcing existing federal laws and ensuring these crimes don’t go unchecked.

“I am extremely thankful for everyone who stood with me to get this legislation across the finish line—veteran advocates, legislative colleagues, community leaders, and every constituent who spoke up and demanded action,” said Representative Blackman. **“This victory belongs to every service member and military family of those who has earned their place with honor.”**

Once signed, the law will empower local and state prosecutors to hold individuals accountable for impersonating veterans and misrepresenting their military status in order to exploit the benefits and recognition reserved for those who served.

Representative Walt Blackman is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 7 and is Chairman of the House Government Committee. Follow him on X at @BlackmanForAZ.

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