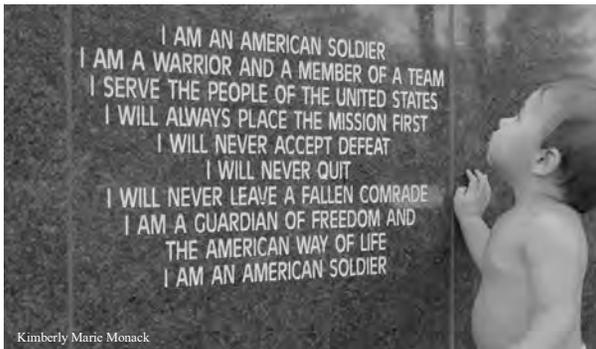


Veterans & Military Personnel are Protected from Housing Discrimination

The Federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.

Washington State includes the following classes: Creed, Marital Status, Sexual Orientation, Military or Honorably Discharged Veteran Status.



Kimberly Marie Monack

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Know Your Rights

*Washington Law Ensures
Veterans and
Active and Reserve Military
Equal Opportunity Access to Housing*



Our Mission

Northwest Fair Housing Alliance (NWFHA) is a private non-profit organization.

Our mission is to eliminate housing discrimination and to ensure equal housing opportunity for the people of Washington State through education, counseling, and advocacy.

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By U.S. Navy photo by Journalist 2nd Class David P. Coleman [Public domain], via Wikimedia

*Fair Housing
for
Veterans
&
Active and Reserve
Military*

NORTHWEST FAIR HOUSING ALLIANCE

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Discrimination in housing based on veteran/military status is prohibited in the State of Washington

With large number of veterans returning home from military service, it is important to protect the rights of service members and veterans with regards to housing.

Housing providers should not make decisions based on preconceived and stereotypical notions about veterans and people serving in the military.

The Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD), RCW 49.60, prohibits discrimination on the basis of **honorably discharged veterans or military status** in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodation, credit, and lending.

RCW 49.60.040, defines honorably discharged veteran or military status to include a person who is:

- A “veteran as defined in RCW 41.04.007;” or
- “an active or reserve member in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, including the National Guard, Coast Guard, and Armed Forces Reserve.



Army Maj. Ladda "Tammy" Duckworth
Illinois Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment



Discrimination in Housing Based on Having a Disability is also Prohibited

Under both the Federal Fair Housing Act and WLAD, veterans and service members with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations (exceptions to housing rules or policies) to enable them to live in housing they otherwise qualify for, if necessary because of a disability.

As a result of the number of veterans returning home with disabilities, reasonable accommodation may be necessary. An accommodation is reasonable if it does not impose undue financial and administrative burdens on the housing provider, and is not a fundamental alteration of the housing program.

Examples of Reasonable Accommodations:

- Assistance/Emotional/Service Animals
- Reserved Parking Space (near unit)
- Live-in Caregiver

Examples of Prohibited Veteran/Military Status Discrimination

- A housing provider must not negatively consider veteran or military status when making housing-related decisions.
- Housing policies and practices must not have an adverse impact on veterans or those in the military by preventing a housing provider from selling or renting to veterans or those currently in the military.
- A housing provider cannot deny a rental to a service member or reservist based on the assumption that he or she would be called to active duty before the terms of the lease are completed.
- A real estate agent should not steer or persuade a service member to buy a home in a certain area simply because of its proximity to a military base or other military families.