## Veterans of Foreign Wars Colorado Colorado General Assembly Legislative Priorities



- 1) Extend, but preferably make permanent the under 55 Military Retirement Pay Income Tax Exemption in parity with other state income tax exemptions for taxpayers age 55 and over.
  - a) HOUSE BILL 18-1060 addressed this tax exemption, however it sunsets Jan 1, 2024
- 2) Support legislation and funding for programs that address isolation, transportation, telehealth broadband and healthcare for rural veterans.
  - a) U.S. Rep. Buck's MLA has been researching and drafting a U.S. Congressional bill for rural broadband
- 3) Support efforts to address veteran homelessness, including providing more affordable housing, providing livable wages, substance abuse treatment, mental health care and suicide prevention.
- 4) Support state legislation and funding to increase job training, entrepreneurship, recruitment, counseling, and placement for veterans transitioning to civilian life.
  - a) The VFWCO supports efforts to address such actions across the newly released military member from mandatory TAP to the DVMA and their state Veteran Service Officers
- 5) Expansion of the Homestead Act to include Gold Star Spouses.
  - a) Colorado Revised Statutes § 38-41-201 through § 38-41-209