



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 121
[2017 Senate Bill 224]

**Veteran Farmer Assistance and
Outreach Program and
Veteran Farmer Logotype**

2017 Wisconsin Act 121 requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to establish and implement a program for veterans, and their immediate family members if the veteran died during service, is missing in action, or died as a result of a service-connected disability (qualifying family members), to integrate them into the field of agriculture and support those currently working in agriculture. The program must include assisting eligible participants in rural and urban communities; providing employment, mentorship, and outreach opportunities; facilitating education opportunities, including through the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin Technical College System; providing advice, technical assistance, and training; connecting veterans with local, state, and federal resources; and creating an Internet site relating to the program. DATCP is required to consult with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), the Department of Military Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in creating the program and is also required to consult with the Department of Corrections to identify and assist formerly incarcerated veterans under the program.

The Act also requires DVA, with assistance from DATCP, to create a logotype to identify agricultural products produced by veterans or their qualifying family members.

Effective date: March 7, 2017

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LAK:mcm;ty

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.