

Addressing Military Sexual Trauma (MST) in Military Settings

WHEREAS, The Veterans Affairs defines Military sexual trauma (MST) as sexual assault or sexual harassment experienced during military service; and

WHEREAS, Veterans of all types of backgrounds have experienced MST, including those of all gender identities, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, ages, and branches and eras of service; and

WHEREAS, MST can occur on or off base, during war or peacetime, and while a Service member is on or off duty. Perpetrators can be men or women, military personnel or civilians, superiors or subordinates in the chain of command, strangers, friends, or intimate partners; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 3 female veterans and 1 in 100 male veterans in the VA healthcare system report experiencing MST; and

WHEREAS, TAASA is committed to raising awareness about Military Sexual Trauma and providing support and advocacy to veterans and organizations who work with them; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TAASA is committed to addressing the needs of victims/survivors in military settings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TAASA is committed to supporting organizations and agencies in developing coordinated responses and preventative practices and efforts with survivor-centered and trauma-informed practices in collaboration with Military Health System (MHS) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA): and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TAASA will assist in leading and promoting local, state and federal sexual violence prevention efforts.

This is a statement Resolution.

Presented by the Board of Directors The state anticipated cost of implementation is \$0.

Resolution passed 2024 expires 2028.

Citations

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. (2024, March 18). *Military sexual trauma (MST)*. Veterans Affairs. <https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/military-sexual-trauma/>

United States Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response. SAPR. (n.d.). <https://sapr.mil/reports>

Blurb:

TAASA remains committed to addressing the needs of survivors of Military Sexual Trauma in military settings. TAASA remains committed to increasing the capacity of member agencies, the Military Health System and the Veterans Health Administration to address the root causes of sexual violence. TAASA will continue supporting member agencies, the Military Health System and the Veterans Health Administration in the development of anti-oppression, survivor-centered, trauma-informed practices.