

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Action:</b>        | Be Adopted                               |
| <b>Vote:</b>          | 5 - 0 - 1                                |
| <b>Yeas:</b>          | Boone, Huffman, Matthews, Esquivel, Witt |
| <b>Nays:</b>          | 0  |
| <b>Exc.:</b>          | Parrish                                  |
| <b>Prepared By:</b>   | Jill Petty, Administrator                |
| <b>Meeting Dates:</b> | 3/15, 3/22                               |

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges Congress to require United States Department of Veterans Affairs to pay veterans' transportation costs in certain circumstances.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Transportation problems highlighted by Task Force on Veterans' Transportation

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The 2009 Legislature passed Senate Bill 98, which created a Task Force on Veterans' Transportation (Task Force). The Task Force Report indicates that under current law, the Veterans Administration is required to pay for a veteran who is in need of immediate treatment at the nearest emergency room. Once the veteran is stable, the veteran must be transported to a Veterans Administration facility. The Task Force discovered that hospitals were not being reimbursed when they transferred veterans from their hospitals to the Veterans Administration facility. House Joint Memorial 6 urges Congress to correct this discrepancy.