

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

---

<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	6 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boone, Huffman, Matthews, Parrish, Esquivel, Witt
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Jill Petty, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	3/29, 4/5

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Amends definition of “disabled veteran” from person entitled to disability compensation to person who has disability rating. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Desire to include all disabled veterans in law

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

**BACKGROUND:** Current law defines a “disabled veteran” as, among other things, a person “entitled to disability compensation” from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). Senate Bill 72 changes the definition from a person “entitled to disability compensation” to a person “who has a disability rating from the United States Department of Veterans” Affairs.” Under the USDVA rating schedule, a disabled veteran may have a disability rating identifying the person as disabled, but the rating may not be high enough to entitle the person to compensation. Under the federal system, a disabled veteran does not receive compensation until reaching a 10 percent disability rating. Senate Bill 72 removes the compensation determination from the definition of “disabled veteran.”