

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Recede from the House Amendments dated February 23 and Repass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Cowan, Hass, Parrish, Monnes Anderson, Esquivel, Witt, Boquist
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Cheyenne Ross, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Extends certain state law protections and benefits already available to military service personnel, to members of the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). Requires community colleges to follow guidelines similar to universities with respect to tuition waivers for dependents of deceased veterans. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Discrepancies between information provided to each Chamber
- Choice to recede from or concur with House amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Rescinds House amendment dated February 23rd, to return to A-engrossed version of measure requiring community colleges to follow guidelines similar to universities, with respect to tuition waivers for dependents of deceased veterans.

BACKGROUND: There are seven “uniformed services” of the United States acknowledged at the federal level: The Army, the Marine Corps, the Navy, the Air Force, the Coast Guard, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service (USPHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The general public is typically most familiar with the first four, our country’s traditional armed services, but less so with the commissioned corps of the NOAA and the USPHS.

Members of the commissioned corps of the NOAA and the USPHS are reassigned to different duty stations and must reestablish themselves in new locales just like any other service member. State law currently offers some benefits and protections to service members to ease some of the difficulty that relocating can impose, such as permitting them to break a lease under certain circumstances. Senate Bill 1563A extends benefits that are already offered to other service members, to members of the commissioned corps of the USPHS and the NOAA. The bill also separately requires community colleges to waive tuition for spouses and other dependents of deceased veterans.