

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	6 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Boone, Huffman, Matthews, Parrish, Esquivel, Witt
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Channa Newell, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/22

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 Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration and United States Public Health Service.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of “active duty”
- Effects of amendment
- Service members included in bill as previously amended

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes Section 12 from the bill, eliminating the tuition waiver for surviving spouse and dependents of service member.

BACKGROUND: There are seven “uniformed services” of the United States acknowledged at the federal level: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, 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 NOAA and the USPHS.

Members of the commissioned corps of NOAA and 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 may impose, such as permitting them to break a lease under certain circumstances. Senate Bill 1563B would apply benefits that are already offered other service members, to members of the commissioned corps of USPHS and the NOAA.