

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/17, 4/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Expands a number of statutory definitions as appropriate, to include persons dishonorably discharged solely on the basis of sexual orientation, where they would otherwise be excluded. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Support for intent of measure, difficulty of actual implementation
- Existing process to re-evaluate discharge
- Possibility of amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Current law generally bars persons dishonorably discharged from military service, from receiving a variety of benefits. Senate Bill 691 creates an exception to this general bar, for those who received a dishonorable discharge based solely on their sexual orientation.