

HB 2231 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Manning Jr

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 04/27/21

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 3-1-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Manning Jr, Patterson, Thomsen

Nays: 1 - Linthicum

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/20, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts uniformed overseas voluntary service and domestic voluntary service in response to a declaration of emergency or disaster by local, state or federal government, from the five-year limit that would otherwise apply to calculations of eligibility for reemployment rights. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Concerns for addressing similar limit at the federal level
- Different characterizations of what is considered to be "voluntary" service

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, a member of the uniformed services has the right to return to their civilian job without penalty or discrimination as long as their cumulative voluntary military service does not exceed five years. Being called-up involuntarily does not count. Reservists, however, have reported that their orders characterize their service as voluntary regardless of whether they volunteered or not for deployment overseas or to respond to a domestic emergency or disaster.

House Bill 2231 exempts time spent in voluntary service overseas and domestic voluntary service responding to a declared emergency or disaster from the five-year limit on reemployment rights.