S-1621.			

## SENATE BILL 5875

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State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senators Swanson, McCaslin, Haugen, Swecker, Jacobsen, Patterson, Rossi, Brown, Heavey, Finkbeiner, Hochstatter, Fraser, Sheldon, Kline, Loveland, Zarelli, Goings, Anderson, Hargrove, Prentice, Oke, Franklin, Thibaudeau, Winsley, Rasmussen, Kohl and Roach

Read first time 02/18/97. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the legislature; and adding a new chapter to
- 2 Title 44 RCW.

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- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** (1) Issues raised during this legislative
- 5 session have underscored that there is a need to provide properly for
  - those who are currently giving service or have given service to their
- 7 state and country. Due to proposed substantial federal cuts in
- 8 programs, veterans, members of the active duty military forces, and
- 9 members of the national guard and reserve components in Washington
- 10 state, must have consideration given to their unique concerns and the
- 11 programs designed for their assistance.
- 12 (2) To this end, there is created a joint select committee on
- 13 veterans and military personnel affairs. The committee consists of
- 14 four members, one from each caucus of the senate, appointed by the
- 15 president of the senate, and one from each caucus of the house of
- 16 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
- 17 representatives.
- 18 (3) The committee shall make an annual report to the legislature,
- 19 the first report due before the 1998 legislative session, on the

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- 1 current status of veteran and military personnel affairs in the state 2 of Washington.
- Further, the committee shall establish an advisory group of all
- 4 interested parties and have access to and the assistance of legislative
- 5 staff and employees of state agencies as necessary to perform studies,
- 6 develop recommendations, and report to the legislature in an ongoing
- 7 manner concerning issues affecting veterans and military personnel in
- 8 this state.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new 10 chapter in Title 44 RCW.

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