

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bill Analysis

Bill No. HB 1078

Relating military leave for public employees

Brief title

Hearing Date 2/3/99

Reps Dunshee, Stenseth and Hurst

Sponsor(s)

Staff Scot MacColl

State Government Committee

Phone 786-7106

BACKGROUND:

Officers and employees of the state and local governments who are members of the Washington National Guard, the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Reserves are granted all the leave of absence from employment for no more than fifteen days in a calendar year.

Military leave of absence in addition to any vacation sick leave accrued cannot affect an employee's efficiency or privileges. During such leave the officer or employee receives his or her normal pay.

Currently leave is granted for two reasons: active duty and inactive duty. Active duty means being called into active service by the federal government. Active duty refers to the two weeks annual training required of members of the armed forces reserves every year. The federal act expressly includes a definition of inactive duty which allows leaves of absence for members to attend regular meetings or drills which may fall during working hours that do not fall under the other two definitions. However, the federal act does not require states to comply with this and leaves change to individual states.

SUMMARY:

Grants leave for a third type of duty called inactive duty. This refers to the requirement that reserves report for training one weekend per month, regular meetings, drills, in addition to the two week active training requirement. The same rules of leave would apply for weekend duty, including protection from loss of pay and privileges, and efficiency.

Defines local governments required to comply with grant 15 days of leave for reserves, more technically include municipal or quasi-municipal corporations and subdivisions of this division. The definition does not include the revisited municipal or quasi-municipal governments that do not pay the reserves the normal rate during absence.

FISCANOTE: Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Ninety days after adjournment session which it passed.