

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5489

As Reported By Senate Committee On:
State & Local Government, March 5, 2001

Title: An act relating to certain personnel in the department of veterans affairs.

Brief Description: Exempting certain veterans affairs personnel from the state civil service law.

Sponsors: Senators B. Sheldon, Swecker, T. Sheldon, Rasmussen, Winsley and Oke; by request of Department of Veterans Affairs.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: State & Local Government: 2/7/01, 3/5/01 [DPS].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5489 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Patterson, Chair; Fairley, Vice Chair; Gardner, Hale, Haugen, Horn, Kline, McCaslin, T. Sheldon and Swecker.

Staff: Eugene Green (786-7405)

Background: The Department of Veterans Affairs is allowed the following specific exemptions from state civil service law: the director, deputy director, and no more than two assistants.

Summary of Substitute Bill: The following additional exemptions to state civil service law apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs: a confidential secretary for the deputy director and each assistant director.

Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill: Off-campus exempt secretaries are eliminated from the bill.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: We feel that the deputy director and assistant directors should be allowed exempt secretaries.

Testimony Against: Concerns about off-campus exempt secretaries were raised about the original bill.

Testified: John Lee, WA Dept. of Veterans Affairs (pro).