

SB 5958 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs

ADOPTED 4/14/2015

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.60A.080 and 1995 c 25 s 1 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) There is hereby created a veterans affairs advisory committee
6 which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the governor and the
7 director of the department of veterans affairs. The committee shall
8 appoint members to serve as liaisons to each of the state veterans'
9 homes, unless the home has a representative appointed to the
10 committee. This liaison must share information on committee meetings
11 and business with the resident council of the states veterans' homes,
12 as well as bring information back for the committee's consideration
13 to ensure veterans' home resident issues are included at regular
14 committee meetings. The committee shall be composed of seventeen
15 members to be appointed by the governor, and shall consist of the
16 following:

17 (a) One representative of the Washington soldiers' home and
18 colony at Orting and one representative of the Washington veterans'
19 home at Retsil. Each home's resident council may nominate up to three
20 individuals whose names are to be forwarded by the director to the
21 governor. In making the appointments, the governor shall consider
22 these recommendations or request additional nominations. If the
23 resident council does not provide any nomination, the governor may
24 appoint a member at large in place of the home's representative.

25 (b) One representative each from the three congressionally
26 chartered or nationally recognized veterans service organizations as
27 listed in the current "Directory of Veterans Service Organizations"
28 published by the United States department of veterans affairs with
29 the largest number of active members in the state of Washington as
30 determined by the director. The organizations' state commanders may
31 each submit a list of three names to be forwarded to the governor by
32 the director. In making the appointments, the governor shall consider
33 these recommendations or request additional nominations.

1 (c) Ten members shall be chosen to represent those
2 congressionally chartered or nationally recognized veterans service
3 organizations listed in the directory under (b) of this subsection
4 and having at least one active chapter within the state of
5 Washington. Up to three nominations may be forwarded from each
6 organization to the governor by the director. In making the
7 appointments, the governor shall consider these recommendations or
8 request additional nominations.

9 (d) Two members shall be veterans at large, as well as any other
10 at large member appointed pursuant to (a) of this subsection. Any
11 individual or organization may nominate a veteran for an at-large
12 position. Organizational affiliation shall not be a prerequisite for
13 nomination or appointment. All nominations for the at-large positions
14 shall be forwarded by the director to the governor.

15 (e) No organization shall have more than one official
16 representative on the committee at any one time.

17 (f) In making appointments to the committee, care shall be taken
18 to ensure that members represent all geographical portions of the
19 state and minority viewpoints, and that the issues and views of
20 concern to women veterans are represented.

21 (2) All members shall have terms of four years. In the case of a
22 vacancy, appointment shall be only for the remainder of the unexpired
23 term for which the vacancy occurs. No member may serve more than two
24 consecutive terms, with vacancy appointments to an unexpired term not
25 considered as a term. Members appointed before June 11, 1992, shall
26 continue to serve until the expiration of their current terms; and
27 then, subject to the conditions contained in this section, are
28 eligible for reappointment.

29 (3) The committee shall adopt an order of business for conducting
30 its meetings.

31 (4) The committee shall have the following powers and duties:

32 (a) To serve in an advisory capacity to the governor and the
33 director on matters pertaining to the department of veterans affairs;

34 (b) To acquaint themselves fully with the operations of the
35 department and recommend such changes to the governor and the
36 director as they deem advisable.

37 (5) Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for
38 the performance of their duties but shall receive a per diem

1 allowance and mileage expense according to the provisions of chapter
2 43.03 RCW."

3 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Provides for a representative from the state veterans' home in Orting and in Retsil on the veterans affairs advisory committee (VAAC), unless the home does not nominate a representative; and

(2) Requires liaisons appointed from the VAAC for each state veterans' home that is not represented on the VAAC.

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