
SENATE BILL 5958

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Llias, Benton, McCoy, Angel, and Chase; by request of Department of Veterans Affairs

Read first time 02/13/15. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing for representation of the state
2 veterans' homes on the governor's veterans affairs advisory
3 committee; and amending RCW 43.60A.080.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.60A.080 and 1995 c 25 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

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

18 (a) (~~One representative of the Washington soldiers' home and~~
19 ~~colony at Orting and one representative of the Washington veterans'~~
20 ~~home at Retsil. Each home's resident council may nominate up to three~~
21 ~~individuals whose names are to be forwarded by the director to the~~

1 ~~governor. In making the appointments, the governor shall consider~~
2 ~~these recommendations or request additional nominations.~~

3 ~~(b))~~ One representative each from the three congressionally
4 chartered or nationally recognized veterans service organizations as
5 listed in the current "Directory of Veterans Service Organizations"
6 published by the United States department of veterans affairs with
7 the largest number of active members in the state of Washington as
8 determined by the director. The organizations' state commanders may
9 each submit a list of three names to be forwarded to the governor by
10 the director. In making the appointments, the governor shall consider
11 these recommendations or request additional nominations.

12 ~~((e))~~ (b) Ten members shall be chosen to represent those
13 congressionally chartered or nationally recognized veterans service
14 organizations listed in the directory under ~~((b))~~ (a) of this
15 subsection and having at least one active chapter within the state of
16 Washington. Up to three nominations may be forwarded from each
17 organization to the governor by the director. In making the
18 appointments, the governor shall consider these recommendations or
19 request additional nominations.

20 ~~((d) Two))~~ (c) Four members shall be veterans at large. Any
21 individual or organization may nominate a veteran for an at-large
22 position. Organizational affiliation shall not be a prerequisite for
23 nomination or appointment. All nominations for the at-large positions
24 shall be forwarded by the director to the governor.

25 ~~((e))~~ (d) No organization shall have more than one official
26 representative on the committee at any one time.

27 ~~((f))~~ (e) In making appointments to the committee, care shall
28 be taken to ensure that members represent all geographical portions
29 of the state and minority viewpoints, and that the issues and views
30 of concern to women veterans are represented.

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

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

1 (4) The committee shall have the following powers and duties:
2 (a) To serve in an advisory capacity to the governor and the
3 director on matters pertaining to the department of veterans affairs;
4 (b) To acquaint themselves fully with the operations of the
5 department and recommend such changes to the governor and the
6 director as they deem advisable.
7 (5) Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for
8 the performance of their duties but shall receive a per diem
9 allowance and mileage expense according to the provisions of chapter
10 43.03 RCW.

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