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HOUSE BILL 2114

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton, Caldier, Johnson, Kilduff, Ortiz-Self, Hayes, and Muri; by request of Department of Veterans Affairs

Read first time 02/13/15. Referred to Committee on Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs.

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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