

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB351

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 07, 2017
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: McCollister
One Liner: Change provisions relating to veteran designations on operators' licenses and state identification cards

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Bostelman, Briese, Friesen, Geist, Hilgers, Hughes, Murante, Smith
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator John McCollister
Charles Craft
James Murphy
Bryon Line
Paul Cohen

Representing:

District 20
Self
U.S. Army
Self
MOAA

Opponents:

Gregory Holloway

Representing:

Nebraska Veteran's Council; DAV; VVA

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 351 would amend provisions of the Nebraska Operator's License Act related to the veterans notation on operator's licenses and State Identification Cards.

The legislation proposes the following changes:

All references in statute to the "notation of the word veteran" on an operator's license are changed to "veteran designation";

Current law provides that the veteran designation may only appear on the operator's license of individuals who have served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, other than active duty for training, and was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions from service). Those eligible for the veteran designation are changed to individuals who have been discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) from the: United States Army or Army Reserve;

United States Navy or Navy Reserve;
United States Marine Corps or Marine Corps Reserve;
United States Coast Guard or Coast Guard Reserve;
United States Air Force or Air Force Reserve; or
National Guard.

Also eligible to have the designation placed on an operator's license or identification card :

Individuals who have served in the United States Public Health Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and was detailed to any branch of the armed forces of the United States for service on active or reserve duty, was discharged or otherwise separated with characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) as proven with valid orders from the United States Department of Defense, a statement of service provided by the United States Public Health Service or a report of transfer or discharge provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

If an individual meets all requirements to receive the veteran designation the Department of Motor Vehicles shall place the following designation on any license issued:

For a veteran of the National Guard- "Guard- Veteran"

For a veteran of the reserves- "Reserve- Veteran"

For all other qualified veterans- "Veteran"

LB 351 has a delayed operative date of January 1, 2018

Explanation of amendments:

The committee considered and adopted an amendment which accomplishes the following:

- 1) Provides that individual's who have served in the United States Public Health Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration must have served as commissioned officers; and
- 2) Adds a new subsection (4) that provides the eligibility standards provided for in section 60-4,189 shall only be used to determine eligibility for the placement of the veteran designation on operator's licenses and state identification cards, and not for the determination of veteran status for any other purpose.

Curt Friesen, Chairperson