

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERAN AFFAIRS & MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

12:00 PM

Betty King Committee Room

Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014, in the Betty King Committee Room at Austin, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Leticia Van de Putte, Chair
Senator Brian Birdwell, Vice Chair
Senator Donna Campbell
Senator José Rodríguez

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Wendy Davis

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The Chair recognized Major Miguel A. Torres with the Texas Military Forces, to lead the committee in the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Texas.

Senator Van de Putte and members of the committee made opening remarks.

The chair called the following individuals to provide invited testimony on interim charge #2: Monitor and examine efforts to provide employment and workforce opportunities for veterans, service members, and their families. Make recommendations on how best to continue collaborating with and supporting our honored veterans as they re-enter the civilian workforce, including improving employment opportunities for veterans at all state agencies (see attached witness list).

The following individuals provided public testimony (see attached witness list).

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The chair called the following individuals to provide invited testimony on interim charge #5: Monitor the implementation of the veterans' occupational licensure bills passed during the 83rd Legislative Session to expedite the licensure process for those who are serving, have served, or are married to someone serving our nation in uniform. Study and make recommendations to strengthen and improve state efforts to ease the transition of military veterans and their spouses into the Texas civilian workforce (see attached witness list).

There being no further business, at 3:14 PM Senator Van de Putte moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Leticia Van de Putte, Chair

Sarah Clemons, Clerk