



## State Legislative Week in Review Week of April 15 - 19, 2013

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

### **Committee Hearings**

Committee: House Ways and Means

Chair: Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda:

**HF1184** (Murphy): Omnibus State Government Finance Bill. Of veterans interest, an amendment was attached that provides the option for de-escalation training for state and local community safety personnel in the use of crisis de-escalation techniques for use with returning veterans from active military service in a combat zone. The \$100,000 funding would come from the MDVA budget, if the Department chooses to implement the program. The bill, as amended, was passed and referred to the Rules and Legislative Administration Committee.

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

### **Senate Session**

**SF1589** (Saxhaug): Omnibus state government, veterans and military affairs appropriations bill was debated on the Senate floor. An author's amendment eliminating language establishing a veterans scratch-off game and giving a direct appropriation of \$840,000 to MDVA in FY14 was passed. The bill was given its third reading and placed on final passage. The bill passed, 34-32.

### **House Session**

Bill introductions of veterans interest:

**Hausman; Ward, J.E., and Carlson introduced:**

HF1783: A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; authorizing spending to acquire and better public land and buildings and other

improvements of a capital nature with certain conditions; authorizing the sale of state bonds; modifying previous appropriations; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 16A.641, subdivision 4a; 462A.36, subdivision 1; 462A.37, subdivision 1, by adding subdivisions; Laws 2008, chapter 152, article 2, section 6; Laws 2009, chapter 93, article 1, section 22, as amended; Laws 2011, First Special Session chapter 12, section 10.

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

### **Committee Hearings**

Committee: House Taxes

Chair: Rep. Ann Lenczewski

**HF677** (Lenczewski): Omnibus Tax Bill as amended by A13-0469.

Of veterans interest are the federal active service exception which grants a six-month grace period for complying with the property tax due dates for homestead property owned by an individual who is on federal active service; the expansion of eligibility for the tax credit for past military service to include any veteran who receives a pension or retirement pay for service in the military; and, a veterans jobs tax credit that allows employers to claim a credit of up to \$1200 for each disabled veteran and up to \$600 for each unemployed veteran hired. The jobs tax credit sunsets after tax year 2016. Further markup of the bill will take place on Wednesday.

Committee: House Ways and Means

Chair: Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda:

**HF270** (Hausman): Omnibus Capital Investment Bill. The bill was passed as amended and placed on General Registry.

*Wednesday, April 17, 2013*

### **Senate Session**

Bill introductions of veterans interest:

**Senators Stumpf and Scalze introduced:**

**SF1612:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; authorizing spending to acquire and better public land and buildings and other improvements of a capital nature with certain conditions; authorizing the sale of state bonds; modifying previous appropriations; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 16A.641, subdivision

4a; 462A.36, subdivision 1; 462A.37, subdivision 1, by adding subdivisions; Laws 2008, chapter 152, article 2, section 6; Laws 2009, chapter 93, article 1, section 22, as amended; Laws 2011, First Special Session chapter 12, section 10.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

### **Senate Session**

Placed on Special Orders, **HF143** (substituted for SF 87 Skoe): American Indian veterans Capitol grounds memorial plaque placement received its third reading, and passed 64-0.

### **House Session**

The report out of the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration designated HF1183, the Omnibus Legacy Bill and SF1589, the Omnibus State Government and Veterans Affairs Finance Bill to be placed on the Calendar for the Day for Saturday, April 20, 2013. Of veterans interest in the Legacy bill is a \$350,000 appropriation each year for grants for veterans memorials in parks and trails of regional or statewide significance and \$100,000 each year for the Humanities Center to fund the Veterans' Voices Awards Program. SF1589 is a delete-all amendment containing the text from HF1184, 2<sup>nd</sup> engrossment.

**The bill introductions and committee hearing status can be found on the Veteran Bill Tracker spreadsheet under Legislative Updates at <http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/> .**