

Representative Tim M. Cosgrove proposes the following substitute bill:

VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Tim M. Cosgrove

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates a legislative commission to address veterans' and military affairs issues.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates a legislative commission and limits its composition to not more than 23 members;
- ▶ requires the commission to study policy issues related to servicemembers, veterans, and their dependents;
- ▶ further requires the commission to study the impact of military facilities on Utah and how to maximize the benefits of those facilities for veterans and the state;
- ▶ requires the commission to report to the Government Operations Interim Committee; and
- ▶ provides a sunset date.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in the fiscal year 2014-15:

- ▶ To the Senate, as an ongoing appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, \$7,000, to pay for the Veterans' and Military Affairs



26 Commission.

- 27 ▶ To the House of Representatives, as an ongoing appropriation:
- 28 • from the General Fund, \$10,000, to pay for the Veterans' and Military Affairs

29 Commission.

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 None

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

34 **63I-2-236**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 283

35 ENACTS:

36 **36-28-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

37 **36-28-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

38 **36-28-103**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

39 **36-28-104**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



41 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

42 Section 1. Section **36-28-101** is enacted to read:

43 **CHAPTER 28. VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

44 **36-28-101. Title.**

45 This chapter is known as the "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission."

46 Section 2. Section **36-28-102** is enacted to read:

47 **36-28-102. Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission -- Creation -- Membership**
48 **-- Chairs -- Terms -- Per diem and expenses.**

49 (1) There is created the Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission.

50 (2) The commission membership is composed of 14 permanent members, but may not
51 exceed 23 members, and is as follows:

52 (a) five legislative members to be appointed as follows:

53 (i) three members from the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
54 House of Representatives, no more than two of whom may be from the same political party;

55 and

56 (ii) two members from the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate, no more

57 than one of whom may be from the same political party;

58 (b) the executive director of the Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs or the
59 director's designee;

60 (c) the chair of the Utah Veterans' Advisory Council;

61 (d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the director's
62 designee;

63 (e) the executive director of the Department of Health or the director's designee;

64 (f) the executive director of the Department of Human Services or the director's
65 designee;

66 (g) a representative from the Administrative Office of the Courts who is
67 knowledgeable in court services appointed by the Judicial Council;

68 (h) a representative from the Utah National Guard appointed by the adjutant general;

69 (i) the Employment Services for Guard and Reserve Transition Assistance Advisor;

70 and

71 (j) a representative from the Board of Regents.

72 (3) The commission may appoint by majority vote of the entire commission up to nine
73 additional representatives the commission considers necessary to complete its duties,
74 including:

75 (a) one representative from the Utah military industry;

76 (b) one military affairs representative from a chamber of commerce;

77 (c) three representatives of veteran service organizations as recommended by the
78 Veterans Advisory Council; and

79 (d) four representatives of state and local government agencies or interest groups.

80 (4) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed
81 under Subsection (2)(a) as a cochair of the commission.

82 (b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House
83 of Representatives appointed under Subsection (2)(a) as a cochair of the commission.

84 (5) A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The
85 action of a majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the commission.

86 (6) The term for each commission member appointed in accordance with Subsection

87 (3) shall be two years from the date of appointment. A member may not serve more than three

88 terms.

89 (7) If a member leaves office or is unable to serve, the vacancy shall be filled as it was
90 originally appointed. A person appointed to fill a vacancy under this section does not serve the
91 remaining unexpired term of the member being replaced but begins serving a new term.

92 (8) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service but
93 may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

94 (a) Section [63A-3-106](#);

95 (b) Section [63A-3-107](#); and

96 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections [63A-3-106](#) and
97 [63A-3-107](#).

98 Section 3. Section **36-28-103** is enacted to read:

99 **36-28-103. Duties.**

100 The commission shall:

101 (1) comply with the rules of legislative interim committees;

102 (2) study and make recommendations to the Legislature on the following issues as they
103 impact active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their dependents:

104 (a) reintegration from military to civilian status;

105 (b) employment;

106 (c) finances;

107 (d) education;

108 (e) health and mental health, including suicide prevention;

109 (f) military affairs, including the impact of military bases; and

110 (g) coordination of state and local government resources to assist active duty
111 servicemembers, veterans, and their dependents; and

112 (3) consider the unique role of the Utah National Guard and its servicemembers in
113 regard to the issues in Subsection (2).

114 Section 4. Section **36-28-104** is enacted to read:

115 **36-28-104. Staff support.**

116 The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall staff the commission.

117 Section 5. Section **63I-2-236** is amended to read:

118 **63I-2-236. Repeal dates -- Title 36.**

- 119 (1) Section [36-12-15.1](#) is repealed July 1, 2015.
- 120 (2) Sections [36-16a-101](#) through [36-16a-108](#) are repealed January 1, 2013.
- 121 (3) Sections [36-28-101](#) through [36-28-104](#) are repealed January 1, 2019.

122 Section 6. **Appropriation.**

123 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for
124 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following sums of money
125 are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts
126 previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in
127 addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2014.

128 To Legislature - Senate

129 From General Fund, Ongoing \$7,000

130 Schedule of Programs:

131 Administration \$7,000

132 To Legislature - House of Representatives

133 From General Fund, Ongoing \$10,000

134 Schedule of Programs:

135 Administration \$10,000