

HOUSE BILL REPORT

ESB 5606

As Reported by House Committee On:
State Government Operations & Accountability

Title: An act relating to activation of the national guard.

Brief Description: Concerning the activation of the national guard.

Sponsors: Senators Pridemore, Schmidt, McAuliffe and Kohl-Welles; by request of Governor Gregoire.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government Operations & Accountability: 3/18/05 [DP].

Brief Summary of Engrossed Bill

- Changes the circumstances under which the Governor may order the National Guard into the active service of the state.
- Changes the circumstances under which National Guard activities must be reimbursed from the General Fund.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 6 members: Representatives Haigh, Chair; Green, Vice Chair; Nixon, Ranking Minority Member; Clements, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Hunt and Miloscia.

Minority Report: Without recommendation. Signed by 2 members: Representatives McDermott and Schindler.

Staff: Jim Morishima (786-7191).

Background:

The Governor may order the National Guard into the active service of the state under enumerated circumstances, including war, insurrection, rebellion, at the request of competent state or local authorities in support of enforcement of controlled substance statutes, or when responsible civil authorities fail to preserve law and order.

When the National Guard is called into the active service of the state to execute or enforce the laws or in case of war, riot, insurrection, invasion, breach of the peace, public disaster, or the imminent danger of any of the aforementioned events, warrants for allowed pay and expenses or compensation for injuries or death must be paid out of the General Fund.

Summary of Bill:

The circumstances under which the Governor may call the National Guard into the active service of the state are expanded to include when such service is otherwise required for the public health, safety, or welfare, or to perform any military duty authorized by state law, or to prepare for or recover from any of the events or the consequences thereof.

The circumstances under which reimbursement for National Guard activities must be paid out of the General Fund are made identical to the circumstances under which the Governor may call the National Guard into the active service of the state, except for anticipated planning, training, exercises, and other administrative duties that are not of an emergent nature.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

Testimony For: None.

Testimony Against: None.

Persons Testifying: None.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.