

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SB 6187

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### As Reported by House Committee On: Health Care

**Title:** An act relating to removing tricare supplemental insurance policies from the definition of health plan or health benefit plan.

**Brief Description:** Removing tricare supplemental insurance policies from the definition of health plan or health benefit plan.

**Sponsors:** Senator Keiser.

#### **Brief History:**

##### **Committee Activity:**

Health Care: 2/17/06, 2/21/06 [DP].

#### **Brief Summary of Bill**

- Removes TRICARE supplemental insurance policies from the definition of health plan or health benefit.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 15 members: Representatives Cody, Chair; Campbell, Vice Chair; Morrell, Vice Chair; Hinkle, Ranking Minority Member; Curtis, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Alexander, Appleton, Bailey, Clibborn, Condotta, Green, Lantz, Moeller, Schual-Berke and Skinner.

**Staff:** Dave Knutson (786-7146).

#### **Background:**

TRICARE is the United States Department of Defense's worldwide health care program for uniformed service members and their families. It is available to service members upon their retirement, even if they subsequently become employed.

The Legislature enacted legislation in 2005 allowing the Public Employee Benefits Board, which provides health coverage for state and other public employees, to offer TRICARE supplemental insurance. The intent was to allow those who are TRICARE eligible, but subsequently employed by the state or other public employer, to choose the supplemental insurance coverage at less cost to themselves and their employer.

Left unchanged by the 2005 legislation, however, were provisions in the general insurance code which also preclude the offering of TRICARE supplemental insurance.

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**Summary of Bill:**

TRICARE supplemental coverage is removed from the definition of "health plan" for purposes of regulation under the state's insurance code.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** None.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Persons Testifying:** None.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.