Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research



State Government Committee

SB 5074

Brief Description: Modifying the veterans' scoring criteria in competitive examinations.

Sponsors: Senators Bailey, Conway, Benton and Hobbs; by request of Department of Enterprise Services.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Modifies the calculation of the veterans' scoring preference in competitive examinations from a percentage to a points scale.

Hearing Date: 3/11/15

Staff: Sean Flynn (786-7124).

Background:

An honorably discharged veteran may claim a scoring preference in competitive examinations used to determine qualifications for public employment. The preference is a certain percentage added to the passing score on an exam that may be claimed until the employee's first promotion.

The percentage amount that may be claimed depends upon the veteran's status:

Ten Percent:

• a combat veteran who is not receiving military retirement.

Five Percent:

- a non-combat veteran; or
- a combat veteran who is receiving military retirement.

Five percent on a promotional exam (until the first promotion):

• a veteran who was called to active service from public employment.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

House Bill Analysis - 1 - SB 5074

Summary of Bill:

The veterans' scoring preference is calculated by adding a certain number of points to a passing score on a competitive exam, rather than increasing the score by percentage. Veterans within each respective preference category may claim five or 10 points to their passing score.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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