

SHB 1055 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Law & Justice

ADOPTED 04/11/2017

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Subject to the availability of  
4 amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, there is hereby  
5 created an office of military and veteran legal assistance within the  
6 office of the attorney general for the purpose of promoting and  
7 facilitating civil legal assistance programs, pro bono services, and  
8 self-help services for military service members, veterans, and their  
9 family members domiciled or stationed in Washington state.

10 (2) For the purposes of sections 1 through 3 of this act, the  
11 following definitions apply:

12 (a) The term "service member" means an active or reserve member  
13 in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, including the  
14 national guard, coast guard, and armed forces reserves.

15 (b) The term "veteran" has the same meaning as defined in RCW  
16 41.04.005 and 41.04.007.

17 (c) The term "family member" means the spouse or domestic  
18 partner, surviving spouse, surviving domestic partner, and dependent  
19 minor children under twenty-one years of age of a living or deceased  
20 service member or veteran for whom the service member or veteran  
21 provided at least one-half of that person's support in the previous  
22 one hundred eighty days before seeking assistance of the programs and  
23 services authorized by this chapter.

24 (3) The attorney general may not directly provide legal  
25 assistance, advice, or representation in any context, unless  
26 otherwise authorized by law, and the attorney general may not provide  
27 legal assistance programs, pro bono services, or self-help services  
28 to a service member, veteran, or family member being criminally  
29 prosecuted.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    The office of military and veteran legal  
2 assistance shall:

3        (1) Recruit and train volunteer attorneys and identify service  
4 programs willing to perform pro bono services for service members,  
5 veterans, and their family members, and create and maintain a  
6 registry of the same;

7        (2) Assess and assign requests for pro bono services to volunteer  
8 attorneys and service programs registered with the office; and

9        (3) Establish an advisory committee that will include, among  
10 others, representatives from legal assistance offices on military  
11 installations, the office of civil legal aid, the Washington state  
12 bar association's legal assistance to military personnel section, the  
13 Washington state veterans bar association, relevant office of  
14 military service and support organizations, and organizations  
15 involved in coordinating, supporting, and delivering civil legal aid  
16 and pro bono legal services in Washington state. The committee shall  
17 provide advice and assistance regarding program design, operation,  
18 volunteer recruitment and support strategies, service delivery  
19 objectives and priorities, and funding.

20        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The attorney general may apply for and  
21 receive grants, gifts, donations, bequests, or other contributions to  
22 help support and to be used exclusively for the operations of the  
23 office of military and veteran legal assistance.

24        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each  
25 added to chapter 43.10 RCW."

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26        On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "families;" strike the  
27 remainder of the title and insert "and adding new sections to chapter  
28 43.10 RCW."

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