

2013 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1310

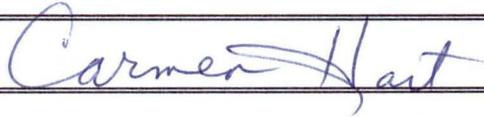
2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1310
January 31, 2013
18086

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to eligibility of county veterans' service officers to be appointed as conservators.

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Jim Kasper opened the hearing on HB 1310.

Rep. Jason Dockter is a sponsor and support of this bill.

Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs for North Dakota, appeared in support of HB 1310. We want to do a little housekeeping and take the conservatorship option off so in the future our CVSOs when they are serving our veterans are serving them to get their benefits but not doing any fiduciary conservator work on their county time and causing a conflict of interest.

Chairman Jim Kasper Explain what the conflict was.

Lonnie Wangen You serve a veteran and you get them their benefits. The VA can determine that they are not capable of taking care of their own finances. They are going to find a conservator or fiduciary to do their checkbook work for them so you pay their bills. This can happen while you are on a job. You pick up 5% of the check they have gotten. You can see where the conflict could come in.

There was no opposition.

The hearing was closed.

Rep. Karen Karls made a motion for a Do Pass.

Rep. Karen Rohr seconded the motion.

Chairman Jim Kasper Obviously, we don't want conflicts of interest and when the affected parties recognize things need to be fixed, this does it. It was a noble experiment that did not work.

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
HB 1310
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Page 2

A roll call vote was taken and resulted in **DO PASS, 13-0, 1 ABSENT. Rep. Jason Dockter** is the carrier.

Date: 1-31-13
 Roll Call Vote #: _____

**2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1310**

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Karls Seconded By Rohr

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper	X		Rep. Bill Amerman		
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning	X		Rep. Gail Mooney	X	
Rep. Jason Dockter	X		Rep. Marie Strinden	X	
Rep. Karen Karls	X		Rep. Steven Zaiser	✓	
Rep. Ben Koppelman	X				
Rep. Vernon Laning	X				
Rep. Scott Louser	X				
Rep. Gary Paur	X				
Rep. Karen Rohr	X				
Rep. Vicky Steiner	X				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Dockter

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1310: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Kasper, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
HB 1310 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2013 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1310

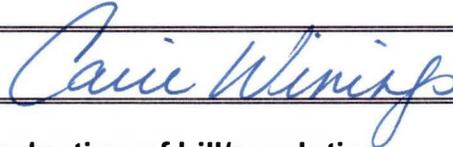
2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

HB 1310
03/14/2013
Job Number 19952

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to eligibility of county veterans' service officers to be appointed as conservators.

Minutes:

Chairman Dever: Opened the hearing on HB 1310.

Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs: Testified in support of the bill and to explain the bill. It comes from HB 1047 two sessions ago. Parameters were set with Veterans Affairs that we can be conservators or fiduciaries and that we cannot help a veteran in that capacity. It also made that clear for the county veteran's service officers as well. It became a conflict of interest. We had only one county that wore two hats where they were appointed as the county veteran's service officer and they were also the conservator for the county. In that case we added that last sentence there, page 2 line 1, where it leaves room for that. That county has determined that they won't do that again so we are removing that as it is a conflict of interest.

(2:00)Chairman Dever: So we were right.

Lonnie Wangen: Yes.

Chairman Dever: It was worth it just for that. The bill is unnecessary otherwise.

Lonnie Wangen: Yes it just fixes what we added at the end of last session.

(2:40) Representative Jason Dockter, District 47: Testified as sponsor of the bill and support of the bill.

John Jacobsen, North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council: See Attachment #1 for testimony in support of the bill. (John did not speak from the podium.)

Chairman Dever: Closed the hearing on HB 1310.

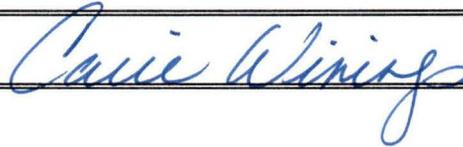
2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

HB 1310
03/29/2013
Job Number 20684

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Dever: Opened HB 1310 for committee discussion and reminded the committee what the purpose of the bill is. I spoke to the county veteran's service officers on Tuesday morning and I did not see any objection to it. I think they thought it was a good thing.

Senator Cook: Moved a Do Pass.

Senator Schaible: Seconded.

A Roll Call Vote Was Taken: 7 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Senator Schaible: Carrier.

Date: 3/29
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1310

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Senator Cook Seconded By Senator Schaible

Senators	Yes	No	Senator	Yes	No
Chairman Dick Dever	✓		Senator Carolyn Nelson	✓	
Vice Chairman Spencer Berry	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Dwight Cook	✓				
Senator Donald Schaible	✓				
Senator Nicole Poolman	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Schaible

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1310: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
HB 1310 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2013 TESTIMONY

HB 1310

NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS COORDINATING COUNCIL

My name is John Jacobsen. I am a member of the Legislative Committee of the North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council is made up of 15 members, 3 from each of the five veterans' organizations in North Dakota.

American Legion

AMVETS

Disabled American Veterans

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Vietnam Veterans of America

It is the policy of the Coordinating Council to support legislation that will benefit the welfare of the members of the Armed Forces. The committee **MUST** concur totally, that is all 15 members must agree on the legislation to be supported or else it does not get the support.

In this case, I have been instructed to recommend to this legislative committee that a "DO PASS" on HB 1310 is supported by the Veterans Coordinating Council.