

2015 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2242

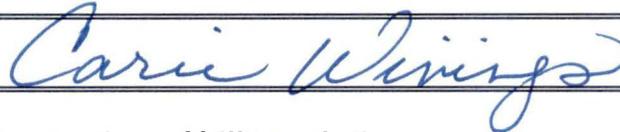
2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Missouri River Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
1/29/2015
Job # 22776

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide for an appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery.

Minutes:

Attachments 1

Chairman Dever: Opened the hearing on SB 2242.

Senator Marcellais, District 9: See Attachment #1 for testimony as sponsor and in support of the bill.

(2:05) Al Dohrmann, Deputy Adjutant General: Testified in neutral position. We are here to answer any questions that you may have. We did provide input for a fiscal note. I did not see it posted yet, but the amount we would need in general funding to cover the loss of revenue would be \$160,000 per biennium. I would also like to highlight is that we currently have a number of prepaid burials for spouses and eligible dependents. That number is \$19,100 and if this bill were to pass it would seem that we would have a moral obligation to refund that money.

Chairman Dever: So, that is money held in a trust that you could just pull it out and return it with no real administrative costs?

Al Dohrmann: Yes. I would assume so. I don't think it is in current operating monies.

Senator Nelson: All those prepaids, would they also have the option to donate them to the veteran's cemetery?

Al Dohrmann: Yes, there is a foundation. To make it clean we would have to refund the money but certainly they would have that option if they wanted to donate it.

Chairman Dever: That is assuming that the appropriation in the bill for the coming biennium money would continue in following biennium?

Al Dohrmann: If this bill passed the Adjutant General would have to include the funding in his base budget request in subsequent biennium.

Senator Flakoll: Could you have a program whereby if we pass this bill that if anyone passed away in the biennium and they had a prepay and that would be refunded but those that live longer you may not refund yet due to the certainty of the funding? Would that be an option?

Al Dohrmann: If it was just for the coming biennium that would be a fair point. As far as the refunds, that would be something that we take up as a policy matter. Whether we would refund those immediately assuming that this is the way the state intends to set its policy going forward. If this was just this biennium then we would deal with those on a case by case basis.

Chairman Dever: Those costs for the veteran are included in the Adjutant General's budget.

Al Dohrmann: Yes in special funding. For the veteran, we get a payment from the VA for each veteran burial and that is around \$750. We just need the authority to spend the money provided by the VA.

Chairman Dever: Closed the hearing on SB 2242.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
1/29/2015
Job# 22840

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

No Attachments

Chairman Dever: Opened SB 2242 for committee discussion. One of the things that swayed my decision on this bill is that the National Guard agrees with it and it looks like they consider it to be a one-time appropriation with the money put into their budget next time.

Senator Flakoll: Before we vote, it would seem as if we should attempt to amend it to reflect the pre-paid situation.

Chairman Dever: It almost seems to me that they can handle that the best way that they think they should. If we put it in the bill that it needs to be refunded then people don't have the option of refunding. I suppose they could take it and give it back.

Senator Flakoll: I think the testimony by Deputy Adjutant General Dohrmann indicated that they would refund it because it would be cleaner on the books. The refund should not be deemed as income whereas the donation would be deemed as a donation. There may be an advantage to the family.

Committee Discussion: The committee proceeded to discuss what the options might be for the Adjutant General's office to deal with the pre-paid account and whether the committee should deal with the issue in the bill or if they should let the House side deal with any corrections that might need to be made.

(6:00) Senator Davison: Moved a Do Pass and Rerefer to Appropriations.

Senator Marcellais: Seconded.

A Roll Call Vote Was Taken: 6 yeas, 1 nay, 0 absent.

Motion Carried.

Senator Davison will carry the bill.

Date: 1/29
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2242**

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Davison Seconded By Marcellais

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Dever	✓		Senator Marcellais	✓	
Vice Chairman Poolman		✗	Senator Nelson	✓	
Senator Cook	✓				
Senator Davison	✓				
Senator Flakoll	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 1

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Davison

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2242: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (6 YEAS, 1 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2242 was rereferred to the **Appropriations Committee**.

2015 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2242

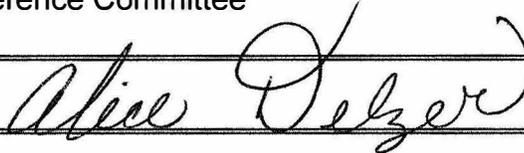
2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
2/5/2015
Job # 23262

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

An appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery

Minutes:

Testimony # 1 - 2

Chairman Holmberg called the committee to order on Thursday, February 05, 2015, at 8:30 am in regards to SB 2242. Roll Call was taken. All committee members were present except Senator Robinson. Lori Laschkewitsch, OMB and Chris Kadrmass, Legislative Council were also present.

Chris Kadrmass, Legislative Council did an update on the Revenue forecast. Page 37 analysis for resource trust fund and page 38: bills that reflect the Resources Trust Fund. That may change.

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on SB 2242 and turned over the gavel to V.Chairman Bowman as he had another hearing to attend.

Senator Marcellais, District 9 introduced the bill and provided written Testimony Attached # 1 in support of the Bill. This bill would allow for the spouse or eligible dependent's burial fees of \$550.00 to be waived.

Senator Kilzer: Are there are a lot of cases now where the \$550.00 fee is not paid?

Senator Marcellais: All the fees are paid. What I am trying to do is put \$160,000 in the line item of the Adjutant General's budget and then waive the fees for the spouses or eligible dependent of the veteran.

V. Chairman Krebsbach: Is that going to include the family?

Ronald Otto, Morton and Oliver County Service Officer testified in favor of SB 2242. I support this bill because at times I've seen the hardship to the veteran. At times you have a veteran who is sitting under pension and he's drawing about \$1,000 a month in income, his

wife passes away and he has to pay that \$550.00 fee for opening and closing fee. To answer Senator Krebsbach's question with regards to eligibility, veterans are eligible, spouses and dependent children. Now dependent children can be adult children. Dependency is determined at age 18 due to disability.

V.Chairman Bowman: Regarding the dependent children is this if they don't have the ability to pay the \$550.00?

Mr. Otto: The bill will replace the money for all the people buried in the veterans' cemetery.

Senator Carlisle asked if there are many dependent children buried there. He was told not a lot.

Senator Kilzer: I am not clear on the age of 18. Is it children over 18 or under 18 not eligible?

Mr. Otto: Under 18 they are dependency. Over 18 has to be established as a child with a disability, perhaps placed in a care facility or the parent cares for them.

Senator Kilzer: Would that mean that able-bodied children over 18 wouldn't qualify? That was confirmed.

Senator Erbele: How many burials do you have there a year for veterans and spouses? He was told by Mr. Otto that he gets a report but doesn't have the numbers with him.

Mark Landies, Burleigh County Service Officer testified in support of this bill. The veterans' cemetery is the hall of fame for veterans. The family members have also served our country. They have supported them during deployment and if their spouse is disabled have stood by them.

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann, Deputy Adjutant General for the ND National Guard: Neutral testimony. I am here to provide information and answer any questions you may have concerning SB 2242. He provided written Testimony Attached # 2, stating the estimated \$160,000 amount is based on projected 290 spouses and eligible dependents burials in the next biennium at a rate of \$550. Our first burial was in 1992. Last year we buried 469 veterans. The only concern we have with the bill is the authority would expire in June 2017. It would be our intent that this amount would be included in the Adjutant General's request. If you start, you don't want to stop. This may be a recurring expense. We have a number of veterans who have prepaid for their dependents, that amount totals around \$19,000. We just hold that in trust. In the case here if that particular veteran or dependent passed away in the next biennium we would refund that money but we wouldn't be able to refund all of it because if this authority expires in 2017 we'll need to hold onto that money.

Senator Carlisle: Everything in our business is 2 years. We can't obligate a future legislature so you're right, the bill will be back next time if it passes would be in your budget.

V.Chairman Bowman: Closed the hearing on SB 2242

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
2/12/2015
Job # 23732

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature *Rose Loring*

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

An appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery

Minutes:

Senator Carlisle moved Do Pass on SB 2242
Senator Robinson seconded.

Senator Carlisle: Ron Otto and Mark Landeis, Morton and Burleigh County Service Officers, along with the Adjutant General, said there were about 469 veterans and dependents to be interred at the Veterans Cemetery.

Senator Heckaman: I have written down to amend the sunset clause out of there. Did someone ask for that.

Senator Mathern: The Adjutant General asked that it be taken out. It's wasn't the sponsor of the bill. The Adjutant General suggested that if we add this service, it's hard to tell people in the future that we won't do it. They didn't have an amendment or anything. I'd keep it as it is.

A Roll Call vote was taken. Yea: 13 Nay: 0 Absent: 0
The bill goes back to the GVA committee and Senator Davison will carry the bill on the floor.

Date: 2-12-15
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2042**

Senate Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Carlisle Seconded By Robinson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Holmberg	✓		Senator Heckaman	✓	
Senator Bowman	✓		Senator Mathern	✓	
Senator Krebsbach	✓		Senator O'Connell	✓	
Senator Carlisle	✓		Senator Robinson	✓	
Senator Sorvaag	✓				
Senator G. Lee	✓				
Senator Kilzer	✓				
Senator Erbele	✓				
Senator Wanzek	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment GVA Davison

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2242: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2242 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2015 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2242

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union, State Capitol

SB 2242
3/12/2015
24780

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Provide an appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery

Minutes:

Attachment 1-2

Chairman Kasper opened the hearing on SB 2242.

Senator Richard Marcellais, appeared in support. He gave a little history before giving his testimony. When preplanning for his funeral, he found out it is free for the veteran at the ND Veterans' Cemetery, but there is a charge for the spouses and that is \$550. That is why the bill was brought forward. Attachment 1. (1:18-2:24)

Rep. Amerman Who would be an eligible dependent? If there isn't a spouse, is there someone else that might be eligible?

Senator Marcellais I believe the Adjutant General will have that answer for you.

Mark Landis, Burleigh County Veterans' Service Officer, appeared in support. We often speak of supporting our veterans, and rightfully so. Unfortunately, the family members often get lost in that conversation. The family members are also serving country when they endure the long separations from service members who are deployed. I urge a do pass recommendation.

Ronald Otto, Morton County Veterans' Service Officer, appeared in support. In the cemetery we currently have 1,721 spouses interred and 49 dependent children. Burial fee at times not only affects the family, but will affect the veteran in particular instances where the dependent has died before the veteran or the spouse dies before the veteran. Dependents of the veterans are included in this bill. That can include dependents that are over the age of 18 due to disability.

Vice Chair Rohr Define interment. Does that include the headstone and digging the site?

Ron Otto The interment is the opening and closing fee for the gravesite. The headstone comes free because of the veteran, and the plot charge is waived also.

Vice Chair Rohr Even for the family members?

Ron Otto Yes, that is correct.

Chairman Kasper The bill says we are appropriating \$160,000 out of the general fund. What is an average cost to provide one procedure for a burial on what we are discussing in the bill?

Ron Otto The \$550 per person fee runs parallel with what is being charged currently at Mandan Union Cemetery.

Chairman Kasper Is there any record of how many veterans and dependents of veterans that have been buried in North Dakota in the last year? How many veteran cemeteries would qualify for this bill?

Ron Otto Just ours.

Chairman Kasper How many burials have we had in the last 12 months?

Ron Otto We had 476 burials in 2014. So far this year we have had 70, and we are running above average.

Rep. Amerman Is \$550 the same for cremation?

Ron Otto It is the same.

Rep. Seibel Of those 476 in 2014, those weren't all spouses or dependents. How many of those were spouses or dependents that this would actually pay for, because the veteran is free?

Ron Otto I am going to defer to the expert.

Rep. Steiner How many dependents can you put in that one spot?

Ron Otto Up to five interments can happen within one plot. They will modify it if they need to.

Vice Chair Rohr Would this also include the transfers in? I understand there are some veterans that are in other burial sites, and the family will opt to have them removed and put into the Mandan Veterans' Cemetery.

Ron Otto There is an anomaly that can occur at the veterans' cemetery if there is a transfer from a cemetery to another transfer and the veteran is coming along with their spouse, they don't charge the fee on the transfer because it becomes a military interment. They are opening for the veteran, and there won't be a charge for the spouse.

No opposition.

Neutral

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann, The Deputy Adjutant General for the ND National Guard, appeared in a neutral position. Attachment 2. He gave this additional information. In 2014, there were 149 spouse or eligible dependent burials. An eligible dependent is up to age 21 or 23 if they are in school, and additionally if you are legally a dependent over the age 21, mentally handicapped or whatever the case may be. We had 134 dependent and spousal burials in 2012 and 152 in 2013. This averages out to about 145 spouse burials a year and about 2 dependent burials a year. We use to have a program that allowed veterans to prepay for their spouses. We currently have about \$19,100 in money we have received for prepaid burials. Obviously, if those spouses were to pass during the next biennium, we would refund that money. We can't refund all that money, because again, we only have appropriations for one biennium. (End 14:41)

Chairman Kasper There is no fiscal note.

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann My understanding is because the bill put the appropriations amount in the bill itself, there was no need for a fiscal note. On the Senate side it was rereferred to appropriations.

Rep. Amerman Are there any other funds that could be used to help in this area?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann There are other funding sources for the veterans' cemetery, but they are part of our budget submittal every year. This year the Veterans' Cemetery Foundation has pledged a grant to help purchase additional land at the veterans' cemetery, but that is something that has already been planned into the Adjutant General's budget.

Rep. Mooney How did it end up the Adjutant General is in charge of the veterans' cemetery and not the Veterans' Administration?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann I think Governor Sinner asked General McDonald to get the cemetery up and running which was in 1989.

Rep. Seibel It is my belief that the ND Veterans' Cemetery is a state cemetery. That is why our national guard members are eligible for burial there. It is not a national veterans' cemetery. Correct?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann No, that is not correct. It is under the National Veterans' Cemetery Administration. What makes ours different from every other state veterans' cemetery is we had specific language passed by Congress that was introduced by Senator Dorgan that allows us to bury national guardsmen in that cemetery that have not otherwise qualified under the federal standards for veterans' burials.

Rep. Schneider The legislature actually established the cemetery?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann That is correct.

Vice Chair Rohr How about army reservists?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann Absolutely.

Vice Chair Rohr Are they charged if they are buried there, like the \$550?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann No. If this bill were to pass and if you were an eligible dependent or spouse of a qualifying veteran who is buried there, the fee would be waived.

Rep. B. Koppelman Is this request designed to deal simply with the hardship or is designed more as an honorary thing?

Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann I was not involved in the drafting of the bill, but as I read the bill, it is not a needs test whatsoever.

The hearing was closed.

Rep. Laning If the military veteran and spouse would be of indigent status, do we know what the human services benefits are available? Would they pay the \$550?

They do not pay.

Rep. B. Koppelman How do they get buried by the county if they are not eligible to be in the military cemetery if they don't pay?

Rep. Seibel When funeral homes negotiate that county burial fee, it includes interment charges if there are any. If someone is indigent in, say in Mercer County, the county wouldn't actually pay the burial fee, the funeral home would have to pay that \$550 out of what they are paid.

Rep. Mooney Each county negotiates that with every single funeral home provider and some are able to provide more in their line item funding and others are less. The base minimum is supposed to be no less than \$1,500. Very often the indigent burial cost ends up being shared many times by both the county taxpayer and the local funeral home.

Rep. Seibel That \$1,500 includes a casket, vault, grave digging, and funeral home services.

Rep. Steiner I feel like we don't get the credit for the support the state gives.

Rep. Mooney Our subcommittee on another bill discussed how do we disseminate that information in a way that the public can actually know about these things? Lonnie Wangen with the Veterans' Affairs was there, and he was talking about some ideas that he has that he can incorporate through education pieces to help drive this forward too.

Rep. Louser made a motion for a DO PASS AND REREFER TO APPROPRIATIONS.

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

SB 2242

3/12/15

Page 5

Rep. Seibel seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. 14 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Absent.

Rep. Steiner will carry the bill.

Date: 3-12-15
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2242**

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Louser Seconded By Seibel

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper	X		Rep. Bill Amerman	X	
Vice Chair Karen Rohr	X		Rep. Gail Mooney	X	
Rep. Jason Dockter	X		Rep. Mary Schneider	X	
Rep. Mary C. Johnson	X		Rep. Kris Wallman	X	
Rep. Karen Karls	X				
Rep. Ben Koppelman	X				
Rep. Vernon Laning	X				
Rep. Scott Louser	X				
Rep. Jay Seibel	X				
Rep. Vicky Steiner	X				

Total (Yes) 14 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Steiner

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2242: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Kasper, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2242 was rereferred to the **Appropriations Committee**.

2015 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2242

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
3/24/2015
25318

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide for an appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery

Minutes:

No Attachments

Chairman Jeff Delzer opened the meeting.

Representative Jim Kasper District 46, Chairman of the House Government and Veteran's Affairs committee spoke on the bill.

Chairman Jeff Delzer
What makes them eligible?

Kasper: if the Veteran is buried there.

Chairman Jeff Delzer
Currently they are all paying the fee of \$550?

Kasper: The family pays the fee or the spouse; but the veteran is free.

Chairman Jeff Delzer: What's wrong with that?

Kasper: nothing wrong with that. If the veteran is buried in Mandan Veteran's cemetery, it might be nice if the spouse is buried in the same location.

Chairman Jeff Delzer: if you buy a plot anywhere else, you're going to pay for it too.

Representative Skarphol
What's the practice of the spouse being buried with the veteran in the Veteran's cemetery?

Kasper: When the veteran is buried; there is room left for the spouse to be buried alongside the veteran and the family at the death of the spouse has to request that location.

Representative Skarphol

It's my understanding that the spouse is buried on top...

Kasper: I knew there was a story in that question

Representative Skarphol why charge the spouse when the same plot is used?

Chairman Jeff Delzer

Do they pay that \$550 when they say they want to do it, or do they wait and have the choice; the second spouse dies 10 years later, do they have that choice then?

Kasper: that question did not come up. They may pay in advance and have that plot there.

Representative Nelson

I hesitate to ask this question; who would qualify; a dependent that was never married or who would qualify as dependent and where do they fit in the plot?

Kasper: If a veteran qualifies to be buried and chooses to be buried; then the eligible spouse and the eligible dependents; which would be children are also eligible to be buried.

Chairman Jeff Delzer: what about the children's wives?

Kasper: I do not believe they are eligible; it's the eligible spouse and eligible dependents of the veteran.

Representative Nelson

Any child the veteran would have would be eligible to be buried in the cemetery?

Kasper: that is what the law says, so yes.

Chairman Jeff Delzer

Are we going to pay those who have already paid the \$550?

Kasper: up to this committee

Representative Hogan

What happens if the spouse dies before the veteran, are they eligible?

Kasper: if the veteran wishes to be buried there and is eligible to be buried, then the spouse would be buried there as well, but it was not discussed

Representative Streyle

How much land is left out there?

Chairman Jeff Delzer: we just bought 70 more acres.

Representative Bellew

This is related to Hogan question; the spouse passes away, she can be buried there, what about if the veteran remarries; would that spouse be eligible to be buried there?

Kasper: it did not come up in our discussion

Representative Boe

They have the ability to manage and run the cemetery very well; do we have \$160,000 to help out burying spouses?

Chairman Jeff Delzer

That is my question and we will have that discussion

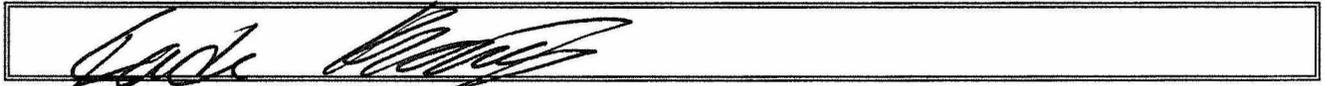
Hearing closed.

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2242
4/9/2015
25974

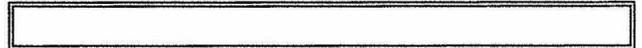
- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide for an appropriation for veterans' spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans' cemetery

Minutes:



Chairman Jeff Delzer: This is a bill that would appropriate 160,000 dollars to the Adjutant General for paying costs of interning spouses and dependents who are eligible for internment. I think we had a pretty good discussion on this. \

Representative Nelson: Can you remind me what the cost of burial is at their veteran cemetery?

Representative Martinson: 550 dollars.

Representative Bellew: I move a Do Not Pass.

Representative Kempnich: Second.

Motion for a Do Not Pass
Motion made by Representative Bellew.
Seconded by Representative Kempnich.
Total Yes 19. No 2. Absent 2.
Motion carries.
Floor assignment Representative Bellew.

Date: 4/9/15
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2242

House: Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By: Bellew Seconded By: Kempenich

Representatives	Yes	No	Absent
Chairman Jeff Delzer	✓		
Vice Chairman Keith Kempenich	✓		
Representative Bellew	✓		
Representative Brandenburg	✓		
Representative Boehning	✓		
Representative Dosch	✓		
Representative Kreidt	✓		
Representative Martinson	✓		
Representative Monson	✓		
Representative Nelson	✓		
Representative Pollert	✓		
Representative Sanford	✓		
Representative Schmidt	✓		
Representative Silbernagel	✓		
Representative Skarphol	✓		
Representative Streyle			AB
Representative Thoreson	✓		
Representative Vigesaa	✓		
Representative Boe			AB
Representative Glassheim	✓		
Representative Guggisberg		✓	
Representative Hogan		✓	
Representative Holman	✓		
TOTALS	19	2	2

Motion Carries

Floor Assignment: Bellew

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2242: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Delzer, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (19 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2242 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2015 TESTIMONY

SB 2242



NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



#1

Senator Richard Marcellais
District 9
RR 1, Box 267A
Belcourt, ND 58316-9787
rmarcellais@nd.gov

COMMITTEES:
Education
Government and Veterans Affairs

***Senate Bill 2242 – to provide an appropriation veterans’ spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans’ cemetery
Senate Government Veterans Affairs Committee
Senator Dever, Chairman
January 29, 2015***

Chairman Dever, members of the Senate Government Veterans Affairs Committee, for the record my name is Richard Marcellais, Senator from District 9, Rolette County.

Senate Bill 2242 would allow for the spouse or eligible dependent’s burial fee’s of \$550.00 to be waved.

The North Dakota Veterans Cemetery was established by an act of the 1989 Legislative Assembly and is operated by the Office of the Adjutant General of North Dakota.

Any veteran or wartime or peacetime service is eligible for burial in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery. Present and past National Guard members and present and past Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve forces.

There is no cost to the veteran for burial. If a spouse or eligible dependent is to be interred, there is an interment fee of \$550.

In honor of all those who have served & especially to those veterans who have protect our countries freedoms, may they rest in peace.

I believe that our North Dakota veterans spouses and dependents are entitled to have their burial fees of \$550 should be waved.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear in support of Senate Bill 2242. I will try an answer any questions the committee may have.



NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Senator Richard Marcellais
District 9
RR 1, Box 267A
Belcourt, ND 58316-9787
rmarcellais@nd.gov

COMMITTEES:
Education
Government and Veterans Affairs

Senate Bill 2242 – to provide an appropriation veterans’ spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans’ cemetery
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senator Holmberg, Chairman
February 5, 2015

Chairman Holmberg, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, for the record my name is Richard Marcellais, Senator from District 9, Rolette County.

Senate Bill 2242 would allow for the spouse or eligible dependent’s burial fee’s of \$550.00 to be waved.

The North Dakota Veterans Cemetery was established by an act of the 1989 Legislative Assembly and is operated by the Office of the Adjutant General of North Dakota.

Any veteran wartime or peacetime service is eligible for burial in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery. Present and past National Guard members and present and past Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve forces.

There is no cost to the veteran for burial. If a spouse or eligible dependent is to be interred, there is an interment fee of \$550.

In honor of all those who have served & especially to those veterans who have protect our countries freedoms, may they rest in peace.

I believe that our North Dakota veterans spouses and dependents are entitled to have their burial fees of \$550 should be waved.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear in support of Senate Bill 2242. I will try an answer any questions the committee may have.

2

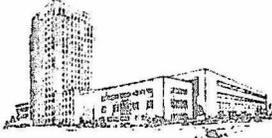
TESTIMONY OF
BRIGADIER GENERAL ALAN S. DOHRMANN
THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
BEFORE THE
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
5 FEBRUARY 2015
SENATE BILL 2242

Good morning Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann, The Deputy Adjutant General for the North Dakota National Guard. I am here today to provide information and answer any questions you may have for me on Senate Bill 2242.

Based on a request for information we received from Senator Marcellais, we calculated the amount of general funds that would be required to off-set the loss of special funding that would result if this bill is passed into law. The \$160,000 amount is based on projected 290 spouse and eligible dependents burials in the next biennium at a rate of \$550.

We do have a concern about the authority of this bill expiring on June 30, 2017. It seems to us, that once this is started it should be maintained. For that reason, if this bill is passed, it will likely be placed in future office of the Adjutant General budget requests.

I would be pleased to stand for any questions you may have.



NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360

1 2242
3-12-15



Senator Richard Marcellais
District 9
RR 1, Box 267A
Belcourt, ND 58316-9787
rmarcellais@nd.gov

COMMITTEES:
Education
Government and Veterans Affairs

***Senate Bill 2242 – to provide an appropriation veterans’ spouses and dependents burial fees at the veterans’ cemetery
House Government Veterans Affairs Committee
Representative Kasper, Chairman
March 12, 2015***

Chairman Kasper, members of the House Government Veterans Affairs Committee, for the record my name is Richard Marcellais, Senator from District 9, Rolette County.

Senate Bill 2242 would allow for the spouse or eligible dependent’s burial fee’s of \$550.00 to be waved.

The North Dakota Veterans Cemetery was established by an act of the 1989 Legislative Assembly and is operated by the Office of the Adjutant General of North Dakota.

Any veteran or wartime or peacetime service is eligible for burial in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery. Present and past National Guard members and present and past Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve forces.

There is no cost to the veteran for burial. If a spouse or eligible dependent is to be interred, there is an interment fee of \$550.

In honor of all those who have served & especially to those veterans who have protect our countries freedoms, may they rest in peace.

I believe that our North Dakota veterans spouses and dependents are entitled to have their burial fees of \$550 should be waved.

*Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear in support of **Senate Bill 2242**. I will try an answer any questions the committee may have.*

#2
2242
3-12-15

TESTIMONY OF
BRIGADIER GENERAL ALAN S. DOHRMANN
THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
BEFORE THE
HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
12 MARCH 2015
SENATE BILL 2242

Good morning Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Brigadier General Alan Dohrmann, The Deputy Adjutant General for the North Dakota National Guard. I am here today to provide information and answer any questions you may have for me on Senate Bill 2242.

Based on a request for information we received from Senator Marcellais, we calculated the amount of general funds that would be required to off-set the loss of special funding that would result if this bill is passed into law. The \$160,000 amount is based on projected 290 spouse and eligible dependents burials in the next biennium at a rate of \$550.

We do have a concern about the authority of this bill expiring on June 30, 2017. It seems to us, that once this is started it should be maintained. For that reason, if this bill is passed, it will likely be placed in future office of the Adjutant General budget requests.

I would be pleased to stand for any questions you may have.