

Minutes: House Military and Veterans Affairs

Monday, February 03, 2025 3:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Rep. Andera, Rep. Aylward, Rep. Baxter, Rep. Jorgenson, Rep. Kayser, Rep. Moore, Rep. Randolph, Rep. Reder, Rep. Shorma, Rep. Weems, Rep. Reisch, and Rep. Goodwin  
Excused: Rep. Pourier

**The meeting was called to order by Representative Goodwin**

**HB 1038 : repeal provisions regarding the state payment for burial of veterans.**

Presented by: Brandy Miesner, Bureau of Finance and Management  
Opponents: Douglas Feltman, American Legion Department of South Dakota, Watertown  
Anna Arnold, Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sioux Falls  
Gene A Murphy, Disabled American Veterans Department of South Dakota, Sioux Falls  
Rob Monson, self, Parkston

**MOTION: DO PASS HB 1038**

Moved by: Moore  
Second by: Baxter  
Action: Was not acted on.

**MOTION: SUBSTITUTE MOTION: REFER HB 1038 TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS WITH A DO NOT PASS RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by: Reisch  
Second by: Andera  
Action: Prevailed by roll call vote (9-3-1-0)

Voting Yes: Andera, Aylward, Kayser, Moore, Randolph, Reder, Weems, Reisch, and Goodwin

Voting No: Baxter, Jorgenson, and Shorma

Excused: Pourier

**HB 1068 : allow a student to wear certain military decorations at a school graduation ceremony.**

Presented by: Representative Jim Halverson  
Proponents: Bobbi Rank, self, Winner  
C.P. Vandelist, American Legion Department of South Dakota, Watertown  
Anna Arnold, Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sioux Falls  
Opponents: Heath Larson, Associated School Boards of South Dakota, Pierre

**MOTION: DO PASS HB 1068**

Moved by: Randolph  
Second by: Reisch  
Action: Prevailed by Majority Members Elect (12-0-1-0)

Voting Yes: Andera, Aylward, Baxter, Jorgenson, Kayser, Moore, Randolph, Reder, Shorma, Weems, Reisch, and Goodwin

Excused: Pourier

**HB 1076 : modify provisions pertaining to unethical conduct and improper collection of fees relating to assistance or referrals in a veterans benefits matter.**

Presented by: Representative Christopher Reder

Proponents: C.P. Vandelist, American Legion Department of South Dakota, Watertown  
Gene A Murphy, Disabled American Veterans Department of South Dakota, Sioux Falls  
Anna Arnold, Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sioux Falls  
Douglas Roggo, self, Aberdeen  
Courtney Steffen, self, Madison

Opponents: Jason Alan Glodt, Veterans Guardian VA Claims Consulting, Pinehurst, NC  
John Henry Blomstrom, Veterans Guardian VA Claims Consulting, Pinehurst, VA  
Peter O'Rourke, National Association of Veterans Rights, Arlington, VA

**MOTION: AMEND HB 1076**

1076A

On page 1, line 19, of the Introduced bill, delete " Act" and insert " section"

On page 1, line 26, of the Introduced bill, after "status." delete "Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 33A-2:"

On page 2, line 1, of the Introduced bill, after "33A-2:" delete "Any person who receives any money, thing of value, or financial benefit for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual with regard to a veterans benefits matter before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States Department of Defense, or the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs must be held to the same ethical standard as an attorney is held to in the South Dakota Rules of Professional Conduct regarding the following areas:

- (1) Advertising;
- (2) Solicitation of new clients;
- (3) Confidentiality;
- (4) Duty of care;
- (5) Duty of honesty; and
- (6) Duty to zealously pursue what is in the best interest of the client."

Moved by: Reisch  
Second by: Randolph  
Action: Prevailed by voice vote

**THE CHAIR DEFERRED HB 1076 UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

**MOTION: ADJOURN**

Moved by: Reisch  
Second by: Baxter  
Action: Prevailed by voice vote

Jean Denton, Committee Secretary

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/s/ TIM GOODWIN  
Tim Goodwin, Chair