

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs was held Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members present: Senators Allen, Olshove and Basham

Members excused: Senators Pappageorge and Garcia

Senator Allen called the meeting to order.

Senator Olshove moved for the adoption of the minutes from the meeting held Wednesday, January 20, 2010 meeting by unanimous consent. Senator Basham supported motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Basham moved for the adoption of the minutes from the meeting held Wednesday, February 10, 2010 meeting by unanimous consent. Senator Olshove supported motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Allen put forth before the committee House Bill 4512 (Representative Polidori).

Tim Sneller, Legislative Director for Representative Polidori, explained that the bill gave the Department of Management and Budget the legal authority to provide a 10% pricing preference to service-disabled, veteran-owned businesses for construction contracts. Previous legislation limited the pricing preference on contracts only for products and services by the Purchasing Division at DMB.

Senator Allen asked Mr. Sneller to brief the committee on upcoming legislation regarding unclaimed cremated veterans remains. Mr. Sneller explained that a bill would be introduced in the immediate future to make a technical change to bill previously passed by the committee on this subject. The new bill would allow for the legislation to have immediate effect when enacted.

Fred Schaible, from the Senate Majority Policy Office, added that there would be a technical amendment to HB 4512, and that the amendment would be ready next week for action by the committee.

Steven Kozera, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, supported the legislation and did not wish to testify.

Bob Burns, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Management and Budget, supported the legislation and did not wish to testify.

Lino Pretto, representing the Purple Heart, supported the legislation and did not wish to testify.

Bonnie Welbaum, representing the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, supported the legislation and did not wish to testify.

Doug Williams, representing the Commanders Group, American Legion, and Marine Corps League, submitted his support for the legislation via e-mail.

Senator Allen indicated that another hearing on this bill would be forthcoming.

There being no further business to discuss, Senator Allen adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren K. Michalak
Committee Clerk

Jason Allen
Chairman

Date Approved by Committee