
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7134

AN ACT CONCERNING REDUCED BUS FARES FOR VETERANS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to allow veterans to pay a reduced fare to ride state-owned or -controlled bus public transportation service. They must present their driver's license or identity card indicating their veteran status to the fare inspector or bus driver, as applicable. (The bill does not specify the amount of the fare reduction.)

Under the bill, the reduced fare applies to veterans who are:

1. honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from active service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Air Force, or any reserve component, including the National Guard performing duty under Title 32 of federal law (e.g., certain Homeland Security missions);
2. discharged under conditions other than dishonorable or for bad conduct from active service in the armed forces and have a qualifying condition (i.e., a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury, or who have disclosed a military sexual trauma experience); and
3. former armed forces members who are entitled to federal retirement pay or who would be so entitled but for their age.

By law, veterans may ask the Department of Veterans Affairs to have their status as a veteran included on their driver's license or identity card. The law requires the Department of Motor Vehicle commissioner to include such status on each driver's license or identity card the department issues, as applicable.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/12/2019)