STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS21058

The purpose of this bill is to help separating service members who leave the military with documented training and experience that can prepare them for civilian employment; but this documentation is not always used by state entities to qualify them for licenses required for their occupation or to provide them academic credit. Reported unemployment rates of separating service members that are higher than national averages have brought attention to supporting issues such as expedited licensure and increased academic credit recognition to alleviate this problem. As of June 2011, 1,000,000 veterans were unemployed and the jobless rate for post-9/11 veterans was 13.3%, with young male veterans (ages 18 to 24) unemployment rate at 21.9%. Providing credit, where due, could help our veterans with employment and academic credit.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact to the general fund.

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