

VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS DIVISION

Representative Jay Xiong, Co-Chair of the Veterans and Military Affairs Division, called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, in Room G23 of the Capitol Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members Present:

XIONG, Jay (Co-Chair)
HEMMINGSSEN-JAEGER, Amanda (Vice Co-Chair)
BLISS, Matt (Co-Chair)
BJORN, Olson (Vice Co-Chair)
BENNETT, Peggy
CLARDY, Mary Frances
DAVIS, Ben
DURAN, Bidal
FEIST, Sandra
HILL, Josiah
REHRAUER, Kari
REPINSKI, Aaron

A quorum was present.

Representative Hemmingsen-Jaeger moved that the minutes of March 12, 2025, be adopted.
THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF 1855 (Greenman); Veterans benefit services federal accreditation required, service providers guarantee of benefits prohibited, and remedies and civil penalties provided.

Chair Xiong moved that HF 1855 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Veterans and Military Affairs Division's omnibus bill.

Representative Greenman presented HF 1855.

Testifying:

- Kristy Janigo, Legislative Chair, American Legion Department of Minnesota
- Ben Johnson, Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Services, Minnesota Department Veterans Affairs
- Ryan Scalmanini, Director of Disability Compliance and Analytics, Veteran Benefits Guide
- Stephen "Butch" Whitehead, Department Adjutant, Disabled American Veterans
- Barry Henriksen, Adjutant and Quartermaster, State of Minnesota Veteran of Foreign Wars
- Jon Gohn, Director, State of Minnesota Veteran of Foreign Wars
- Brian Lewis, Military Law and Veteran Affair Claims Attorney, Francis White Law Professional Limited Liability Company
- John Baker, Executive Director, Minnesota Association County Veterans Service Officers
- Benjamin Krause, Chairman and Attorney, United Veterans Leadership Council
- Marissa LaCourt, Assistant County Veterans Service Officer, Goodhue County
- John Blomstrom, Manager, Government and Public Affairs, Veterans Guardian
- Ross LaCourt, Marine Veteran and District Vice, The American Legion

Vice Chair Hemmingsen-Jaeger assumed the gavel at 9:46 AM.

Chair Bliss moved that HF 1855 be re-referred to Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee.
THE MOTION PREVAILED.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM.



Representative Jay Xiong, Co-Chair



Bonnsy Vue, Committee Legislative Assistant