

House Research Act Summary

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Overview

For decades, Minnesota law has permitted veterans to request a small preference in hiring for state and local government jobs. However, the law has excluded retired veterans who are eligible for a pension based solely on length of military service. This act repeals that exclusion. Henceforth, retired veterans will have the same preference as other veterans in state and local government hiring.

- 1 Repealer.** Repeals Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.11, subdivision 2 and section 197.455, subdivision 3. Those provisions stated that veteran's preference credit cannot be used by a veteran who is receiving or is eligible to receive a veteran's pension based exclusively on length of military service.

Effective date: August 1, 2005.

Background: Under current law, veterans preference applies to state civil service (section 43A.11) and to political subdivisions (section 197.455). In the state civil service, people who claim veteran's preference and who meet the minimum qualifications for a vacant position are listed in the applicant pool before nonveteran applicants. The appointing authority can hire anyone in the pool, but if the appointing authority rejects a person in the finalist pool who has claimed veteran's preference, the appointing authority must notify the person of the reasons for the rejection. For political subdivisions, nondisabled veterans who have a passing rating on an exam can elect to receive a credit of five points. Disabled veterans can elect to receive a credit of ten points. A disabled veteran can also use a credit of five points on a promotional exam.