## HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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## **Overview**

This bill authorizes and funds the Adjutant General and the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs to pay certain soldiers and veterans service organizations that provide honor guard services at the funerals of deceased National Guard members and veterans.

## **Section**

- Honor Guards National Guard. Authorizes the Adjutant General to activate members of the National Guard into state active service at their normal rate of pay for the funeral of any Guard member who dies while serving actively in the military or after having served honorably for six or more years in the Guard.
- **Honor Guards Veterans.** Authorizes the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs to pay up to \$50 to a local unit of a Congressionally chartered veterans service organization (VSO) for each time that the unit provides an honor guard detail at the funeral of a deceased veteran.
- **Appropriations.** Provides appropriations of (blank \$, and blank \$) to the Adjutant General and the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, respectively, for payments for honor guards in sections 1 and 2.

**Effective date.** Effective July 1, 2007.

Note: There are over 40 congressionally chartered veterans service organizations. Some of the more well known such organizations include: the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, Marine Corps League, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Gold Star Wives, Jewish War Veterans, American Gold Star Mothers, and others. Of course, not all of these organizations provide honor guard services.