

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Veterans Preference Act – time period for hearing increased

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Overview

This bill increases the time period (to 120 days, from 20 days under current law) within which the commissioner of Veterans Affairs must hold a hearing on a petition by a veteran claiming to have been denied employment rights by any state or local governmental body, as provided under the Minnesota Veterans Preference Act.

The bill also clarifies certain provisions of the Act, including that the petition must be sent by *certified* mail, that it must be *complete*, and that the veterans signature on it must be *notarized*.

Section

- 1 Petition.** Directs that, when a veteran who has been denied rights by any state or local governmental agency petitions the commissioner of Veterans Affairs for an order of relief, the petition must be submitted via U.S. mail. This section also specifies that certain additional information must be included in the petition, including certain telephone numbers and a copy of the veteran's discharge papers (federal form DD-214), and that the veteran's signature must be *notarized*.
- 2 Service of copy of petition.** Clarifies that the commissioner, when serving a copy of the petition to all parties to the proceeding, must ensure that the petition is *complete*.
- 3 Hearing.** Increases to 120 days (up from 20 days) the time period within which the commissioner must hold a hearing on the petition. Directs that the commissioner's mailed notification must be sent by *certified* mail.