

HCS HB 1064 -- VETERANS

SPONSOR: Rehder

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Veterans by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 0.

Beginning August 28, 2019, any veteran who is approved for admission into a Missouri veterans' home, but has not been admitted due to a lack of vacancy may receive a voucher from the state for an amount that is equal to the average cost to the state to house one veteran for one month in a Missouri veteran's home.

The voucher will be used to pay for the costs of being housed at an assisted living facility, intermediate care facility, residential care facility, or skilled nursing facility. The voucher will be issued on a monthly basis by the Missouri Veterans Commission as long as the veteran can pay for room and board at a facility in a timely manner.

Issuance of a voucher will not affect any eligible veteran's position for placement in a Missouri veteran's home.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would assist individuals who are currently waiting to be placed into a veteran's home. This would additionally allow veterans to be cared for close to their homes and families instead of having to relocate to a current veteran's home.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Rehder and Pat Rowe Kerr.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that skilled nursing facilities could assist with short-term care issues.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Health Care Association.