

Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

AGENDA

Thursday, June 17, 2010
Fort Worth City Hall
9:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Committee Business

V. **Interim Charge 1:** Study veteran employment and veteran-owned small business issues, including the usefulness of creating a veteran-specific employment database to target job openings tailored to the skill sets of Texas' returning veterans. Include an assessment and recommendations to best implement the veteran employment database.

- Carlos Martinez, President & Chief Executive Officer, National GI Forum
- Sal Adamski, Workforce Improvement Director, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County
- Brian Bascom, Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Veterans Chamber of Commerce

VI. **Interim Charge 3:** Examine the use of the new GI Bill by veterans and their families in conjunction with the changes made to the Hazlewood Act during the 81st Legislature, Regular Session, as the number of service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan continues to rise. Include an assessment and recommendations on how the programs can be maximized to better serve veterans and their families.

- Connie Cooper, Assistant Director for Grants and Special Programs, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Connie Jacksits, Director of Veterans Education, Texas Veterans Commission
- Robert Lee Aiken, Chairman, US Veterans Chamber of Commerce

VII. **Interim Charge 7:** Inventory and assess veteran workforce programs offered by state agencies (i.e., TVC, TWC, TAG), and include the usefulness of creating a veteran-specific employment database, which would target job openings tailored to the skill set of Texas' returning veterans as well as job training for spouses. Make recommendations to allow agencies to work more effectively and for efficient implementation of a veteran employment database.

- General Jose Mayorga, Adjutant General for the State of Texas
- Bill Wilson, Director of Veterans Employment Services, Texas Veterans Commission

- Reagan Miller, Deputy Director of Workforce Policy and Service, Texas Workforce Commission

VIII. **Interim Charge 8:** Consider the mission of the State Guard and the numbers of volunteers within the State Guard. Make recommendations to incentivize recruitment and retention of volunteers to the State Guard.

- Commander Ray Peters, Texas State Guard
- General Jose Mayorga, Adjutant General for the State of Texas
- Representative Dan Flynn
- General Charlie Miller, Texas State Guard

IX. Public Testimony

X. Recess