



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY, VETERANS AND HOMELAND SECURITY

REP. JENNIFER CONLIN

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

12:00 PM

Room 327, House Office Building

The House Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security was called to order by Chair Conlin.

At 12:03 PM, the Chair laid the committee at ease.

At 12:05 PM, the Chair called the committee back to order.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Conlin, Coleman, Tyrone Carter, Stone, Rogers, Wegela, Bezotte, Martin, St. Germaine.

Absent: Rep. Markkanen.

Excused: Rep. Markkanen.

Representative St. Germaine moved to adopt the meeting minutes from May 16, 2023. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid presentations on veteran's mental health before the committee.

Representative Brabec gave a presentation on veteran's mental health. Questions and discussion followed.

Dr. Hosanqa Auinash, representing Michigan Medicine, gave a presentation on veteran's mental health. Questions and discussion followed.

Tommy Aceto and Jessie MacLachan, representing Reason For Hope, gave a presentation on veteran's mental health. Questions and discussion followed.

General Martin Steele and Brett Waters, representing Reason For Hope, gave a presentation on veteran's mental health. Questions and discussion followed.

The Chair laid HB 4555 before the committee:

HB 4555 (Rep. Rogers)

A bill to designate June 12 of each year as Women Veterans Recognition Day.

Erika Hoover, Women Veteran and Special Populations Coordinator for the Michigan Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, testified in support of HB 4555.

Representative Rogers testified in support of HB 4555.

Tony Kennedy, a U.S. Army veteran, testified in support of HB 4555.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4555, but did not wish to speak:

Heather Feeterstein, representing the Michigan Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs.

Jack G. Devine, representing the Michigan Commanders Group.

Representative Coleman moved to report out HB 4555 with recommendation. The motion prevailed 9-0-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Conlin, Coleman, Tyrone Carter, Stone, Rogers, Wegela, Bezotte, Martin, St. Germaine.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

The Chair laid an additional presentation on veteran's mental health before the committee.

Robert Near, Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, and Brian Webb, Veteran Liaison for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, gave a presentation on veteran's mental health.

Representative Bezotte moved to excuse Representative Markkanen from the meeting. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Conlin adjourned the meeting at 1:24 PM.

Representative Jennifer Conlin, Chair

Matt Carnagie
Committee Clerk
mcarnagie@house.mi.gov