

Minnesota State Senate

Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Subcommittee on Veterans
Monday, March 3, 2025
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

Minutes

Present: Senator Aric Putnam - **Chair**, Senator Bruce D. Anderson, Senator Gene Dornink, Senator Zach Duckworth, Senator Heather Gustafson, Senator Mary K. Kunesh, Senator Robert J. Kupec, Senator Judy Seeberger, Senator Nathan Wesenberg

Absent: No Members Absent

Senator Aric Putnam called the meeting to order at 3:06pm. The gavel changed to Senator Kupec at 3:06pm. The gavel changed back to Senator Putnam at 4:41pm.

Call to Order

S.F. 1894: Senator Putnam: Federal accreditation requirement of benefit services providers.

Testifiers: Jon Kelly – Director of Government Affairs, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, Ron Quade – Director of Veterans Services, MDVA, Kristy Janigo – American Legion Department of Minnesota Legislative Chair, Ray Colas – Veterans Benefits Guide, Ashleigh Barry – NAVR, John Blomstrom – Veterans Guardian, Brian Lewis – Attorney, Francis White Law PLLC, Benjamin Krause – Attorney, PLLC

Senator Putnam moved that SF 1894 be moved from the Subcommittee on Veterans to the Committee on Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development. Senator Anderson requested a roll call.

- Senator Putnam - Aye
- Senator Anderson - Nay
- Senator Dornink - Nay
- Senator Duckworth - Nay
- Senator Gustafson - Aye
- Senator Kunesh - Aye
- Senator Kupec - Aye
- Senator Seeberger - Aye
- Senator Wesenberg - Nay

With a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 4 nays, the motion prevails.

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1894, be recommended to pass and re-referred to the Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 1452: Senator Putnam: Veterans service office grant program and appropriation.

Testifiers: Kristy Janigo - American Legion Department of Minnesota Legislative Chair

Senator Kupec moved that S.F. 1452, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 1930: Senator Howe: Continued education benefits provision to surviving spouses.

Testifiers: Kristy Janigo - American Legion Department of Minnesota Legislative Chair, Leah Patton – Executive Director, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

Senator Kupec moves the A-1 amendment, motion is adopted.

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1930, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**


S.F. 1782: Senator Farnsworth: Fishing with Vets grant appropriation.

Testifiers: Bob Sterns – Director of Operations of Fishing with Vets, Jeremy Colson – President of Fishing with Vets, Ron Knutson – Veteran Participant and Fundraiser Volunteer

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1782, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm



Senator Aric Putnam, Chair



Keely Spens, Legislative Assistant