STATE OF MINNESOTA FOURTH MEETING

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NINETY-THIRD SESSION

 **VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

Representative Jerry Newton, Chair of the Veterans and Military Affairs Finance & Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, on February 6, 2023 in Room 5 of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

**Members present:**

NEWTON, Jerry, Chair

ELKINS, Steve, Vice-Chair

BLISS, Matt, Minority Lead

BENNETT, Peggy

COULTER, Nathan

GREENMAN, Emma

HUDELLA, Shane

LISLEGARD, Dave

NORRIS, Matt

OLSON, Bjorn

WEINS, Mark

**Members Excused:**

CLARDY, Mary Frances

A quorum was present.

Representative Bliss moved that the minutes from January 30, 2023 be approved. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF1060 (Demuth) Property tax provisions modified, and disabled veterans' homestead market value exclusion spousal benefit modified.

Chair Newton moved that HF1060 be re-referred to the Tax Committee.

Representative Demuth presented HF1060.

Testifiers:

* Mic Aguirre, Chair, Commander’s Task Force

Chair Newton renewed the motion that HF1060 be re-referred to the Tax Committee. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF656 (Pfarr) Post-9/11 veterans bonus program eligibility expanded.

Chair Newton moved that HF656 be laid over for possible inclusion in a Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy omnibus bill.

Representative Pfarr presented HF656.

Testifiers:

* Ben Johnson, Chief of Staff, Minnesota Department of Affairs
* Mic Aguirre, Chair, Commander’s Task Force

Chair Newton renewed the motion that HF 656 be laid over for possible inclusion in a Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy omnibus bill. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF1112 (Bennett) Post-9/11 veteran bonuses funding provided, and money appropriated.

Representative Bennett moved that HF1112 be laid over for possible inclusion in a Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy omnibus bill.

Representative Bennett presented HF1112.

Testifiers:

* Rachel Hill, American Legion

Chair Newton renewed the motion that HF1112 be laid over for possible inclusion in a Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy omnibus. THE MOTION PREVAILED

HF986 ( Hudella) Tax and fee exemptions provided for eligible veterans with a disability, including certain registration taxes, license plates fees, title fees, driver's license and identification card fees, and motor vehicle sales taxes.

Representative Hudella moved HF986 be re-referred to the Transportation Finance and Policy Committee.

Representative Hudella presented HF986.

Testifiers:

* Mic Aguirre, Chair, Commander’s Task Force

Representative Hudella renewed the motion that HF986 be re-referred to the Transportation Finance and Policy Committee. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF985 (Wiens) Transportation; Civil Air Patrol special plates established.

Representative Wiens moved that HF985 be re-referred to the Transportation Finance and Policy Committee.

Representative Wiens presented HF985.

Testifiers:

* Lt. Col. Paul Prior, Civil Air Patrol

Representative Wiens renewed the motion that HF985 be re-referred to the Transportation Finance and Policy Committee. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF665 (Bliss) Available remedies for violating the prohibition on assigning military pay or benefits amended.

Representative Bliss moved that HF665 be re-referred to the Commerce Finance and Policy Committee.

Representative Bliss presented HF665.

Testifiers:

* Ron Elwood, Supervising Attorney, Legal Aid.

Representative Bliss renewed the motion that HF665 be re-referred to the Commerce Finance and Policy Committee. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF731 (Bennett) Fee exemptions provided for motor vehicles bearing Purple Heart medal special plates.

Representative Bennett presented HF731 as an informational hearing.

Testifiers:

* William Bull, Finance Officer, Military Order of the Purple Heart of Minnesota

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 PM.

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|  Representative Jerry Newton, Chair |

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|  Robin Schmidt, Committee Legislative Assistant |