

**Amendment No. 1026**

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 241 (BDR 36-579)

**Proposed by:** Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

**Amends:** Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

DLJ/WLK



Date: 5/30/2015

A.B. No. 241—Creates the Advisory Military and Veterans Research Committee.  
(BDR 36-579)



ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 241—ASSEMBLYMEN EDWARDS, ARMSTRONG, KIRNER, ELLISON, ELLIOT ANDERSON; HAMBRICK, HICKEY, MOORE, OSCARSON, STEWART AND TROWBRIDGE

MARCH 9, 2015

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR GOICOECHEA

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates the Women Veterans Advisory ~~{Military and Veterans Research}~~ Committee. (BDR 36-579)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~{omitted material}~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the military; creating the Women Veterans Advisory ~~{Military and Veterans Research}~~ Committee; ~~{authorizing}~~ setting forth the composition of the Committee; requiring the Committee to ~~{research certain issues}~~ perform duties and conduct activities of concern to and of assistance to, women veterans ~~{and members}~~ of the Armed Forces of the United States; requiring the Committee to submit an annual report; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Section ~~{4}~~ 5.3 of this bill creates the Women Veterans Advisory ~~{Military and Veterans Research}~~ Committee. ~~{I provides for}~~ and sets forth its membership. ~~{and sets forth provisions regarding the conduct of its business.}~~ Section ~~{4}~~ 5.5 of this bill ~~{authorizes}~~ sets forth the duties of the Committee. ~~{to research issues related to members of the Armed Forces of the United States and veterans residing in this State}~~ including issues related to: (1) ~~{the pre- and post-deployment of members of the Armed Forces of the United States to active conflict zones.}~~ locating, educating and advocating for women veterans; (2) ~~{the homelessness of}~~ informing women veterans ~~{about available programs and benefits.}~~ (3) ~~{backlogs in the processing of claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs in this State.}~~ determining the unique needs of women veterans; (4) ~~{backlogs in the provision of services at facilities operated by the Veterans Health Administration in this State.}~~ making recommendations on an annual basis to the Governor, the Nevada Legislature and the Director of the Department of Veterans Services; and (5) ~~{mental health issues relating to members of the Armed Forces of the United States and veterans.}~~ working cooperatively with the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs. In addition, section ~~{4}~~ 5.5 requires the Committee to submit an annual report to the Governor. ~~{and Legislature.}~~ Section ~~{5}~~ 5.7 of this bill requires ~~{the Office of the Military and}~~ the Department of Veterans Services to ~~{jointly}~~ provide administrative assistance to the Committee.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1       **Section 1.** Chapter 417 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the  
2 provisions set forth as sections 2 to ~~5,~~ **5.7,** inclusive, of this act.

3       **Sec. 2.** ~~As used in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, unless the context~~  
4 ~~otherwise requires, "Committee" means the Advisory Military and Veterans~~  
5 ~~Research Committee created by section 3 of this act.~~ **(Deleted by amendment.)**

6       **Sec. 3.** ~~1. The Advisory Military and Veterans Research Committee is~~  
7 ~~hereby created consisting of the following twelve members:~~

8       ~~(a) Four members appointed by the Governor, at least three of whom must be~~  
9 ~~former members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are now retired;~~

10       ~~(b) One member who is a member of the Senate appointed by the Majority~~  
11 ~~Leader of the Senate;~~

12       ~~(c) One member who is a member of the Senate appointed by the Minority~~  
13 ~~Leader of the Senate;~~

14       ~~(d) One member who is a member of the Assembly appointed by the Speaker~~  
15 ~~of the Assembly;~~

16       ~~(e) One member who is a member of the Assembly appointed by the Minority~~  
17 ~~Leader of the Assembly;~~

18       ~~(f) The Attorney General, or his or her designee, as an ex officio member;~~

19       ~~(g) The person who is appointed to the position commonly known as the~~  
20 ~~Director of Military and Veterans Policy within the Office of the Governor, or his~~  
21 ~~or her successor, as an ex officio member;~~

22       ~~(h) The Commander of the Department of Nevada of the Veterans of~~  
23 ~~Foreign Wars of the United States as an ex officio member; and~~

24       ~~(i) The Commander of the Department of Nevada of the American Legion as~~  
25 ~~an ex officio member.~~

26       ~~2. The Governor shall annually select from the members of the Committee~~  
27 ~~two members to serve as Chair and as Vice Chair.~~

28       ~~3. After the initial terms, each member of the Committee appointed~~  
29 ~~pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (e), inclusive, of subsection 1 serves a term of 4~~  
30 ~~years.~~

31       ~~4. If a vacancy occurs in the membership of a member appointed pursuant~~  
32 ~~to paragraphs (a) to (e), inclusive, of subsection 1, the applicable appointing~~  
33 ~~authority shall appoint a new member to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.~~

34       ~~5. The Committee shall meet at least four times per year at the call of the~~  
35 ~~Chair.~~

36       ~~6. A majority of the members of the Committee appointed pursuant to~~  
37 ~~paragraphs (a) to (e), inclusive, of subsection 1 constitutes a quorum for the~~  
38 ~~transaction of any business.~~

39       ~~7. Each member of the Committee:~~

40       ~~(a) Serves without compensation, except that a member of the Committee~~  
41 ~~who is a state officer or employee may receive his or her regular compensation~~  
42 ~~while engaging in the business of the Committee; and~~

43       ~~(b) While engaged in the business of the Committee, is entitled to receive the~~  
44 ~~per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees~~  
45 ~~generally.~~ **(Deleted by amendment.)**

46       **Sec. 4.** ~~The Committee shall:~~

47       ~~1. Work cooperatively with the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs to~~  
48 ~~research issues related to members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the~~

~~United States residing in this State, including, without limitation, issues related to:~~

~~(a) The pre and post deployment of such members of the Armed Forces of the United States to active conflict zones;~~

~~(b) Homelessness among such veterans;~~

~~(c) Backlogs in the processing of claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs in this State;~~

~~(d) Backlogs in the provision of services at facilities operated by the Veterans Health Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in this State; and~~

~~(e) Mental health issues relating to members of the Armed Forces of the United States and veterans.~~

~~2. On or before February 15 of each year, submit a report concerning the activities of the Committee during the preceding calendar year and any recommendations of the Committee to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to:~~

~~(a) If the Legislature is in session, the standing committees of the Legislature which have jurisdiction over the subject matter; or~~

~~(b) If the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Commission.} (Deleted by amendment.)~~

~~Sec. 5. {The Office of the Military and the Department of Veterans Services shall jointly provide the Committee with:~~

~~1. Meeting rooms;~~

~~2. Staff assistance;~~

~~3. Data processing services; and~~

~~4. Clerical assistance.} (Deleted by amendment.)~~

Sec. 5.1. As used in sections 5.1 to 5.7, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, "Committee" means the Women Veterans Advisory Committee created by section 5.3 of this act.

Sec. 5.2. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. Women make up 15 percent of the veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and continue to be an increasingly integral part of the operations of the Armed Forces of the United States around the world.

2. Few studies have been conducted to determine and understand the unique challenges that women veterans may have, both postdeployment and following separation from active duty.

3. Many veterans who are women do not self-identify as veterans and may, therefore, fail to consider various programs and benefits that are available to them as a result of their military service.

Sec. 5.3. 1. The Women Veterans Advisory Committee is hereby created consisting of five members appointed by the Governor, at least three of whom must be women, and all of whom must be former members of the Armed Forces of the United States, including, without limitation, the Nevada Army National Guard and the Nevada Air National Guard, who received, upon severance from service, an honorable discharge. Each member serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

2. In making appointments pursuant to subsection 1, the Governor shall consider:

(a) The recommendations of the Director;

(b) Whether the appointments provide a geographical balance between the urban and rural areas of this State and represent the cultural diversity of this State; and

(c) The level of activity of the person in the veteran community.

- 1 3. The Committee shall elect a Chair from among its members.  
2 4. After the initial terms, each member of the Committee appointed  
3 pursuant to subsection 1 serves a term of 4 years.  
4 5. A vacancy on the Committee must be filled for the remainder of the  
5 unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.  
6 6. The Committee shall meet at least four times per year at the call of the  
7 Chair.  
8 7. A majority of the members of the Committee appointed pursuant to  
9 subsection 1 constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.  
10 8. Each member of the Committee:  
11 (a) Serves without compensation, except that a member of the Committee  
12 who is a state officer or employee may receive his or her regular compensation  
13 while engaging in the business of the Committee; and  
14 (b) While engaged in the business of the Committee, is entitled to receive the  
15 per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees  
16 generally.  
17 Sec. 5.5. The Committee shall:  
18 1. Support and assist the Department in:  
19 (a) Locating, educating and advocating for all women veterans in this State;  
20 (b) Determining the unique needs of women veterans;  
21 (c) Conducting outreach and education through various means, including,  
22 without limitation, the Green Zone Network, the organization of statewide women  
23 veterans events, the promotion of benefits and superior health care for women  
24 veterans and the development of programs that inform pupils, business leaders  
25 and educators about the important role women play in the Armed Forces of the  
26 United States;  
27 (d) Educating women veterans as to benefits and programs that are available  
28 to them;  
29 (e) At least annually, making such recommendations as may be deemed  
30 necessary or advisable to the Governor, the Nevada Legislature, the office of the  
31 Director of the Department of Veterans Services and such other offices of this  
32 State as may be appropriate; and  
33 (f) Advocating on behalf of women veterans to ensure that the programs and  
34 policies of this State and of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
35 remain open to women and mindful of the elements of the experience of a veteran  
36 that are unique to women.  
37 2. Work cooperatively with the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs  
38 and make recommendations concerning the needs of, and resources available to,  
39 women veterans.  
40 3. On or before February 15 of each year, submit a report concerning the  
41 activities of the Committee during the preceding calendar year and any  
42 recommendations of the Committee to the Governor. The report must include,  
43 without limitation, information pertaining to:  
44 (a) The demographics of women veterans,  
45 (b) The contributions that women veterans have made on behalf of the  
46 United States and this State,  
47 (c) The unique needs of the population of women veterans,  
48 (d) Steps taken to reduce misinformation and improve support for programs  
49 for women veterans.  
50 Sec. 5.7. The Department shall provide the personnel, facilities, equipment  
51 and supplies required by the Committee.  
52 Sec. 6. ~~NRS 417.0195 is hereby amended to read as follows:~~  
53 ~~417.0195 The Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs shall:~~

~~1. Identify and prioritize the needs of veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families in this State.~~

~~2. Study the coordination of the efforts of the Federal Government, State Government, local governments and private entities to meet the needs of veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families in this State.~~

~~3. Work with the Advisory Military and Veterans Research Committee pursuant to section 4 of this act.~~

~~4. On or before February 15 of each year, submit a report concerning the activities of the Council during the preceding calendar year and any recommendations of the Council to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to:~~

~~(a) If the Legislature is in session, the standing committees of the Legislature which have jurisdiction of the subject matter; or~~

~~(b) If the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Commission. (Deleted by amendment.)~~

~~Sec. 7. [The initial terms of the members of the Advisory Military and Veterans Research Committee appointed pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (c), inclusive, of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act are as follows:~~

~~1. Two of the members appointed pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of that section shall serve an initial term of 4 years;~~

~~2. Two of the members appointed pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of that section shall serve an initial term of 2 years;~~

~~3. The members appointed pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection 1 of that section shall serve an initial term of 4 years; and~~

~~4. The members appointed pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (e) of subsection 1 of that section shall serve an initial term of 2 years. (Deleted by amendment.)~~

Sec. 7.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, the Governor shall, on or before July 1, 2015, appoint:

1. Three of the members of the Women Veterans Advisory Committee, established by the Governor pursuant to Executive Order 2014-08, issued on March 13, 2014, to a term of office on the Women Veterans Advisory Committee created by section 5.3 of this act expiring on January 1, 2018.

2. Two of the members of the Women Veterans Advisory Committee, established by the Governor pursuant to Executive Order 2014-08, issued on March 13, 2014, to a term of office on the Women Veterans Advisory Committee created by section 5.3 of this act expiring on January 1, 2016.

Sec. 8. The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

Sec. 9. This act becomes effective upon:

~~1. Passage~~ passage and approval for the purposes of adopting any regulations or performing any preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, ~~+~~ and

~~+~~ 2. On on October 1, 2015, for all other purposes.