

2023 SENATE AGRICULTURE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2204

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

SB 2204
1/19/2023

A bill for an act relating to Veterans relief and rehabilitation.

9:45 AM Chairman Luick called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairman Luick, Vice Chairman Myrdal, Senator Lemm, Senator Hogan, Senator Weston, Senator Weber.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action
- Veteran relief and rehabilitation

9:45 AM Senator Myrdal introduced SB 2204 and testified in favor. (verbal)

9:49 AM Lonnie Wagner, Commissioner, NDDVA, testified in favor of SB 2204. #13968

9:58 AM Major Jay Sheldon, North Dakota National Guard, testified as neutral on SB 2204. (verbal)

10:00 AM Chairman Luick closed the hearing on SB 2204.

10:01 AM Senator Myrdal moved to DO PASS on SB 2204.
Senator Weber seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senators	Vote
Senator Larry Luick	Y
Senator Janne Myrdal	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Mark F. Weber	Y
Senator Kent Weston	Y

Vote: 6-0-0

Senator Weston will carry the bill.

10:01 AM Chairman Luick closed the hearing.

Brenda Cook, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2204: Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Luick, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2204 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2023 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2204

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2204
3/2/2023

Relating to veterans' relief and rehabilitation.

Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

Chairman Austen Schauer, Vice Chairman Bernie Satrom, Reps. Landon Bahl, Claire Cory, Jorin Johnson, Karen Karls, Carrie McLeod, Karen M. Rohr, Vicky Steiner, Steve Vetter, and Mary Schneider present. Rep. Scott Louser virtually present. Rep. Jeff A. Hoverson not present.

Discussion Topics:

- Enlistment numbers
- National Guard reserve

Sen. Meyer introduced SB 2204 with supportive testimony.

Lonnie Wagner, Commissioner of North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, supportive testimony (#21315).

Chairman Schauer closed the hearing on SB 2204 at 1:42 PM.

Rep. Vetter moved a do pass on SB 2204.

Seconded by Rep. Rohr.

Roll Call Vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	Y
Representative Claire Cory	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	AB
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Scott Louser	AB
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Steve Vetter	Y

Motion carries 11-0-2.

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

SB 2204

3/2/2023

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Carried by Rep. Vetter.

Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 1:44 PM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2204: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Schauer, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB
2204 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SB 2204

SB 2204

North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs
Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner

1/19/2023

Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee
68th Legislative Session
Senator Luick-Chair

Chairman Luick and Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of SB 2204

Intent of this bill:

Allow current or former members of the national guard or reserve to be eligible for the ND Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran's Aid Fund Loan program

Need for bill:

- Many of our current national guard and reserve members qualify as a veteran due to mobilizations during the past 30 years of war.
- Our national guard is depended on more and more for state and federal service
- State activations do not count towards veteran status
- National guard and reserve deserve access to more programs
- NDDVA loan program has sufficient funds to expand its eligibility
- Enlistment in military service to include the national guard and reserve is decreasing
- Young guard and reserve have higher need for unsecured loan during school and beginning years as an adult

Outcome

- Additional benefit for serving our country in the armed forces
- Increased use of ND Loan Program

Fiscal Note:

- None

Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA

SB 2204

North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs
Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner

3/02/2023

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
68th Legislative Session
Representative Schauer-Chair

Chairman Schauer and House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee,

Please accept this testimony in support of SB 2204

Intent of this bill:

Allow current or former members of the national guard or reserve to be eligible for the ND Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran's Aid Fund Loan program

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Outcome

- Additional benefit for serving our country in the armed forces
- Increased use of ND Loan Program

Fiscal Note:

- None

Thank you for your consideration.

Lonnie Wangen Commissioner-NDDVA