



MICHIGAN  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
P.O. Box 30014  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

Minutes of the House Standing Committee  
on  
Military and Veteran Affairs

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Tuesday, March 21, 2017

12:00 Noon

Room 327 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs was called to order by Representative Jason Wentworth, Chair.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives Wentworth, Graves, Hughes, Barrett, Glenn, Albert, Hoitenga, Johnson, Sabo, Brinks, Byrd, Elder and Jones. (13/13)**  
The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

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The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of March 14, 2017 as printed.

**Representative Albert moved to adopt the minutes of March 14, 2017, as printed. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.**

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The Chair laid before the committee House Concurrent Resolution 3.

**HCR 3 (Albert)** A concurrent resolution to urge the Congress of the United States to properly fund the Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Veterans' Appeals and to urge the Board to streamline its process so that appeals are decided in a more timely manner.

Representative Thomas Albert, the concurrent resolution sponsor, explained the resolution to the committee members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the concurrent resolution, but did not wish to speak:

Lino B. Pretto, Michigan Department Legislative Officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and

Mark A. Sutton, Public Relations Director for the American Legion Department of Michigan.

**Representative Albert moved to report House Concurrent Resolution 3 with the recommendation that the concurrent resolution be adopted. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Wentworth, Graves, Hughes, Barrett, Glenn, Albert, Hoitenga, Johnson, Sabo, Brinks, Byrd, Elder, and Jones, (13/13)**

**Nays: None. (0/13)**

The concurrent resolution was referred to the House floor.

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The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 4048.

**HB 4048 (Graves)** Veterans; veterans' homes; employment preference at veterans' facilities; provide for veterans.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the bill, but did not wish to speak:

Lino B. Pretto, Michigan Department Legislative Officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and

Mark A. Sutton, Public Relations Director for the American Legion Department of Michigan.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards stating they were neutral on the bill, but did not wish to speak

Steven A. Kozera, Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and

Phil Yeiter, Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

**Representative Barrett moved to report House Bill 4048 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill pass.**

**The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Wentworth, Graves, Hughes, Barrett, Glenn, Albert, Hoitenga, Sabo, Brinks, Byrd, Elder, and Jones, (12/13)**

**Nays: Representative Johnson. (1/13)**

The bill was referred to the order of Second Reading of Bills.

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There being no other business before the committee; **Representative Barrett moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 12:06 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

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Jason Wentworth, Chair  
House Standing Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

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Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

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Date approved by the committee