

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 823

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to participation in job training and employment assistance programs by veterans and other covered persons.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 302, Labor Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. PRIORITY OF SERVICE IN JOB TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 302.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Active military, naval, or air service" has the meaning assigned by 38 U.S.C. Section 101(24).

(2) "Covered person" has the meaning assigned by 38 U.S.C. Section 4215(a). The term includes the spouse of any member of the armed forces who died while serving on active military, naval, or air service.

(3) "Veteran" has the meaning assigned by 38 U.S.C. Section 101(2).

Sec. 302.152. PRIORITY OF SERVICE REQUIRED. (a) A covered person is entitled to priority in obtaining services or resources under this subchapter. In the implementation of this section, a covered person may take precedence in obtaining services or resources under this subchapter over persons who are not covered persons.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a), "taking precedence" may

1 mean that:

2 (1) the covered person receives access to a service or
3 resource before a person who is not a covered person; or

4 (2) if the service or resource is limited, the covered
5 person receives access to the service or resource instead of a
6 person who is not a covered person.

7 Sec. 302.153. PARTICIPATION IN STATE-FUNDED PROGRAMS. In
8 selecting applicants to receive training or assistance under a job
9 training or employment assistance program or service that is funded
10 wholly or partly with state money, priority of service must be given
11 to a covered person who meets the minimum eligibility requirements
12 to participate or enroll in the program or receive the service.

13 Sec. 302.154. PARTICIPATION IN TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION
14 PROGRAMS. The Texas Veterans Commission shall operate programs in
15 this state to enhance the employment opportunities of veterans,
16 including the employment programs funded under 38 U.S.C. Chapters
17 41 and 42. The programs must exclusively enhance the employment
18 opportunities of eligible veterans, and the services provided under
19 those programs must be provided by state employees. A state
20 employee providing services under a program may only provide
21 services to veterans.

22 SECTION 2. Section 302.014, Labor Code, is repealed.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.