

SCS SB 830 -- POLICE MILITARY LEAVE

SPONSOR: Ridgeway (Silvey)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute allows members of the Police Retirement System of Kansas City to receive service credit for time spent in military service during a war. Members are not required to pay member contributions for this service time.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows Kansas City police officers and civilian employees who are mobilized for active duty to receive employer contributions and service time credit toward their retirement while deployed. The employee is not required to make individual contributions while deployed. The bill only applies if the entire unit is deployed; and if an individual is called up, these provisions will not apply.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Ridgeway; and Police Retirement System of Kansas City.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say there is concern since the bill only applies to entire units that are mobilized, not individuals who are called up in support of a war. There's no reason to expect that people will be mobilized by unit since many are activated as individuals. Support is needed for all of our military, not just the units as a whole.

Others testifying on the bill was Pat Kerr, Veterans' Ombudsman.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst