
DIGEST

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Ernst

HB No. 710

Abstract: Provides for changes to the benefits paid to members of the military forces and for expanded power for military judges to punish for contempt of court for certain courts-martial.

Present law (R.S. 29:26(A)) provides that when the military forces of the state are called to active duty, they shall be entitled to receive the equivalent pay and benefits established by law for the regular army.

Proposed law deletes the requirement of the Military Department to pay for the equivalent benefits to those established for the regular army of the U.S., and otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 29:28.1(B)(3)) provides that the Military Department may operate morale, welfare, and recreation facilities and exchanges and may create and operate Non-Appropriated Fund Instrumentalities.

Present law (R.S. 29:148) provides that a court-martial may punish various offenses for contempt with a confinement not to exceed 30 days or a fine of \$100, or both.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a military judge of a special or general court-martial has the duty to require that court-martial proceedings shall be conducted with dignity and in an orderly and expeditious manner and to so control the proceedings that justice is done. Further provides that a military judge may hold contempt hearings at any time during or after the completion of a court-martial.

Proposed law provides that the military judge of a special or general court-martial shall have the same powers as that of a judge for a state district court for punishments of contempt of court as provided for in the C.Cr.P.

(Amends R.S. 29:26(A), 28.1(B), and 148)