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## DIGEST

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Cox

HB No. 583

**Abstract:** Prohibits the termination of a veteran from employment for attending necessary medical appointments.

Present law prohibits discrimination in employment.

Proposed law provides that employers shall not discriminate against veterans who must attend medical appointments necessary to receive his veterans benefits.

Proposed law provides that upon demand by the employer, the veteran shall submit proof of attendance of the medical appointment by producing a bill, receipt, or excuse from the provider.

Proposed law provides that if an employer violates the provisions of proposed law, the veteran may bring a suit in district court and recover damages such as continued employment, reinstatement if he has been terminated, any benefits he missed while being terminated, and reasonable costs and attorney fees.

Proposed law defines "veteran" as any honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the U.S. including the reserves, National Guard, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, and any other category of persons designated by the president in time of war or emergency.

(Adds R.S. 23:331)