Kim Skipper

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Quartermaster <qmaster-1@vfw9785.org>

Sent:

Thursday, April 10, 2014 4:01 PM

To: Subject: Kim Skipper HB 357

Kim,

I hope this will do. I don't have a way to print it and scan it to you.

"I write this email in support of House Bill 357 – Access to Licensed Premises. This bill has been long in coming and I believe it will provide our young heroes a better and more conducive venue to shed the pressures of military life. All too often, younger veterans are limited to on-base or on-post attractions. This bill will allow them to congregate with their peers. Patriotic organizations such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion make this possible. It should be noted that there is no age restriction for membership in the VFW, only that they be American citizens, honorable service in the Armed Forces, and be the recipient of a qualifying campaign medal. As such, young (under 21) veterans may return from their deployment fresh from combat and eligible for immediate membership, only to be told they can only enter their club during a "special event". This is wrong and must be changed. I believe the new verbiage in HB 357 will remove the confusion and correct this wrong."

John W. Mattison

Past Department Commander (2008-2009)

Quartermaster, VFW Post 9785

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