

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE

March 30, 2022

1:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Mia Costello, Chair
Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Joshua Revak, Vice Chair
Senator Peter Micciche

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 125(L&C)

"An Act relating to employment preferences for active service members, veterans, and spouses and dependent children of active service members and veterans; relating to employment preferences for surviving spouses of deceased service members and veterans; and relating to employment preferences for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war."

- MOVED CSHB 125(L&C) OUT OF COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 197

"An Act relating to direct health care agreements; and relating to unfair trade practices."

- BILL HEARING CANCELED

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 125

SHORT TITLE: MILITARY AND FAMILY EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) NELSON

03/05/21	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
03/05/21	(H)	MLV, L&C
03/16/21	(H)	MLV AT 1:00 PM GRUENBERG 120
03/16/21	(H)	Heard & Held
03/16/21	(H)	MINUTE(MLV)
03/18/21	(H)	MLV AT 1:00 PM GRUENBERG 120

03/18/21 (H) Moved HB 125 Out of Committee
03/18/21 (H) MINUTE (MLV)
03/20/21 (H) MLV RPT 6DP
03/20/21 (H) DP: CLAMAN, TARR, SHAW, NELSON,
RAUSCHER, TUCK
04/16/21 (H) L&C AT 8:00 AM GRUENBERG 120
04/16/21 (H) Heard & Held
04/16/21 (H) MINUTE (L&C)
04/23/21 (H) L&C AT 8:00 AM GRUENBERG 120
04/23/21 (H) Moved CSHB 125 (L&C) Out of Committee
04/23/21 (H) MINUTE (L&C)
04/26/21 (H) L&C RPT CS (L&C) NEW TITLE 6DP 1NR
04/26/21 (H) DP: SCHRAGE, MCCARTY, SNYDER, NELSON,
FIELDS, SPOHNHOLZ
04/26/21 (H) NR: KAUFMAN
05/07/21 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)
05/07/21 (H) VERSION: CSHB 125 (L&C)
05/10/21 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
05/10/21 (S) L&C
05/17/21 (S) L&C AT 2:00 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
05/17/21 (S) Heard & Held
05/17/21 (S) MINUTE (L&C)

WITNESS REGISTER

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID NELSON
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Sponsor of HB 125.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[1:32:14 PM](#)

CHAIR MIA COSTELLO called the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators Gray-Jackson, Stevens, and Chair Costello.

HB 125-MILITARY AND FAMILY EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE

[1:32:46 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO announced the consideration of CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 125 (L&C) "An Act relating to employment preferences for active service members, veterans, and spouses and dependent children of active service members and veterans; relating to employment preferences for surviving spouses of deceased service members and veterans; and relating to employment preferences for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war."

[This is the second hearing. The bill was first heard last year and public testimony was closed.]

CHAIR COSTELLO asked Representative Nelson to refresh the committee's recall of HB 125.

[1:33:10 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID NELSON, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, sponsor of HB 125, stated that the bill extends the current employment hiring preference to military spouses and selected dependents.

CHAIR COSTELLO noted that when the bill was heard previously, his aide testified that, at the minimum, this would allow an interview. She asked if that was correct.

REPRESENTATIVE NELSON answered yes.

[1:34:12 PM](#)

SENATOR GRAY-JACKSON asked what the term "selected" means in this context.

REPRESENTATIVE NELSON explained that the bill originally gave hiring preference to all dependents and the House Labor and Commerce Committee amended it to include just Goldstar dependents. These are family members of fallen members of the U.S. military.

CHAIR COSTELLO found no further questions and solicited a motion.

[1:35:03 PM](#)

SENATOR STEVENS moved to report HB 125, work order 32-LS0602\B, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

[1:35:19 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO found no objection and CSHB 125(L&C) moved from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

[1:35:36 PM](#)

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Costello adjourned the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting at 1:35 p.m.