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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn ORIGINAL DATE 1/28/16
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 224
SHORT TITLE State Defense Force Maximum Age SB _____
ANALYST Rogers

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 224 establishes a minimum age for State Defense Force Members and eliminates any reference to an arbitrary “maximum” age of sixty four (64) increases the age limit to seventy five (75).

The bill removes a debilitating, unnecessary and artificial barrier to those able and willing to serve in the State Defense Force. Members will still be required to meet minimal health and fitness standards.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact of rising the maximum age for enlistment in the state defense force. The force is solely made up of volunteers. In the event that members are called out to duty, DMA would equip them as needed out of the Adjutant General Emergency Fund. On a routine basis, when they are in Cadre status, they are self-funded and self-equipped.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DMA stated that, under current statute, the adjutant general would not be able to allow new members who are older than 64 years of age into the State Defense Force.

The current maximum age seems to be an anomaly that has no basis in mission accomplishment or ability to serve. Current statute recognizes that existing members could still render service past the age of 64 and DMA maintains that there are many strong viable candidates over the age of 64 who are not currently members but would be valuable additions if allowed to be recruited.

It is hard for practicing doctors, lawyers, chaplains, engineers and other professionals to devote time to the State Defense Force when they are still in practice. However, many of these and other professionals are retiring around the age of 64 and are excluded from the Force at the time when they can devote the most time to service in the State Defense Force - with the potential of many years of productive service thereafter.

The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2016.

TMR/jo