

ACT No. 165

HOUSE BILL NO. 583

BY REPRESENTATIVES COX, ADAMS, ARMES, BERTHELOT, WESLEY BISHOP, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CONNICK, DOVE, EDWARDS, GAINES, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRISON, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HODGES, HOWARD, HUNTER, GIROD JACKSON, KATRINA JACKSON, JAMES, LEOPOLD, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MACK, MONTOUCET, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, ORTEGO, PIERRE, PRICE, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, ST. GERMAIN, STOKES, TALBOT, AND ALFRED WILLIAMS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 23:331, relative to veterans; to provide with respect to employment discrimination; to provide for protection for veterans to attend necessary medical appointments; to provide definitions; to provide penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 23:331 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§331. Veterans

A. It shall be unlawful discrimination in employment to discharge, otherwise discipline, threaten to discharge, or threaten to discipline any veteran for taking time away from work to attend medical appointments necessary to meet the requirements to receive his veterans benefits.

B. The veteran shall verify his attendance of the medical appointment, if requested by his employer, by presenting a bill, receipt, or excuse from the medical provider.

C. If a veteran is discharged, disciplined, or has received a threat of discharge or discipline for attending medical appointments as provided in this Section, he may take legal action pursuant to R.S. 29:38(D).

1 D. For purposes of this Section, "veteran" shall mean any honorably
2 discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States including reserved
3 components of the armed forces, the Army National Guard and the Air National
4 Guard, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, and any other category
5 of persons designated by the president in time of war or emergency.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____