

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 3, 2005 LB 54

honorable conditions are not the same thing, but in some cases, in many cases, they are both eligible for the same benefits, and that seemed to, at least mostly, take care of that objection. So, with that, that is what we offer to you today, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, as Chairperson of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments to LB 54, AM0029.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. One of the things I mentioned is that we tried to keep everything the same as it had been, as was current practice. And during the course of the committee hearing on the bill, we got some testimony regarding the county veterans service committees and the county veterans service officers, and we did receive testimony that said there was a preference to making certain that veterans service officers, which exist in every county--maybe there is a shared veterans service office in some counties, but every county has some way of veterans accessing those kinds of services--they should be those veterans with honorable discharges only. And they made a pretty compelling argument for that, because at the state level that is also the case. The veterans...well, the Veterans' director, for instance, has to have an honorable discharge, and others at the state level on committees and so forth. And so the committee decided to make sure that these veterans have only honorable discharges. In thinking about the amendment, we also investigated if there were any out there at the present time that had general discharges under honorable conditions, and we were going to maybe grandfather them in if that was the case. And we discovered that there weren't any serving at present time. So we also briefly discussed the actual committees themselves at the county level and discovered that there are committees that do have veterans with general discharges serving on those committees. We left that alone. That's current practice and we left that alone. So the committee amendment simply says that if you're going to be a veterans service officer at the county level that you need to have an honorable discharge. That's the only real substantive change from current practice, and you could say that it really is current practice,