



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 8/21/2017

Bill Number

Senate Bill 17-212

Sponsors

Senator Crowder
Representative Weissman

Short Title

**Sunset Board of Veterans
Affairs**

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill which became effective June 1, 2017.

Background

The Board of Veterans Affairs is made up of seven members, all honorably discharged veterans of military service, who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the state Senate. The board advises the Division of Veterans Affairs and other state agencies on veterans issues. It also recommends approval of spending from the Veterans Trust Fund, including grants given to nonprofit veterans' organizations. The board was scheduled to terminate on July 1, 2017.

Sunset process. Sunset laws allow the legislature to periodically review the need for state regulation and to update the law creating a regulatory entity or government function. The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) is responsible for evaluating the entity or function prior to the date when it is scheduled to be terminated. In the case of advisory committees, DORA evaluates the committee's performance and determines whether it should be continued for the protection or benefit of the public. A legislative committee then reviews DORA's recommendations on the sunset and may introduce a bill implementing those recommendations.

Senate Action

Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee (March 15, 2017). At the hearing, representatives from the Board of Veterans Affairs and the United Veterans Committee of Colorado testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

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Senate Appropriations Committee (April 6, 2017). The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole with a recommendation that it be placed on the consent calendar.

Senate second reading (April 7, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on second reading (consent calendar) with no amendments.

Senate third reading (April 10, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on third reading (consent calendar) with no amendments.

House Action

House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee (April 27, 2017). At the hearing, a representatives from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (May 1, 2017). The House passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

House third reading (May 2, 2017). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Relevant Research

Colorado Office of Policy, Research & Regulatory Reform, Department of Regulatory Agencies, *2016 Advisory Committee Sunset Reviews*, October 2016: <https://tinyurl.com/mbc4rle>

Legislative Council Staff, *Sunrise and Sunset Process*, Issue Brief, October 2012: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/Sunrise%26Sunset.pdf>

Office of Legislative Legal Services, *The Sunset Process: Legislative Review of Regulatory Agencies and Functions*, Law Summary, October 2014: <https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/the-sunset-process.pdf>