

\*House Committee\*

## COMMITTEE MINUTES for VETERANS AFFAIRS

Date: *February 14, 2019*

Location: *RM 19*

Convened: *1:00 PM*

Recessed: *1:05 PM*

Reconvened: *1:15 PM*

Adjourned: *1:35 PM*

### Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Representatives Salmon-CH, Gustafson-VC, Kurth-RM, Breckenridge, Brown-Powers, Gaines, Hite, Jeneary, Kacena, Lundgren, Ourth, Smith, M., Sorensen, Thompson, Wheeler, Wills

Absent:

Excused: Representative Bennett

Chairperson Salmon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Representative Bennett was excused.

The minutes were approved.

There were no bills to assign.

Both parties went to caucus at 1:05 P.M. The committee reconvened at 1:15 P.M.

Chairperson Salmon recognized Representative Jeneary for opening remarks on [HSB 135](#), a bill relating to the creation of a green alert program for missing veterans-at-risk.

There was an amendment. Chairperson Salmon recognized Rep. Jeneary for opening remarks on amendment 201. Discussion was opened. Representative Kacena expressed his support for the amendment and encouraged his caucus to support it. With no further discussion, Chairperson Salmon recognized Rep. Jeneary for closing remarks on amendment 201. Rep. Jeneary moved adoption of the amendment. The amendment was adopted by short form voice vote.

Discussion was opened on [HSB 135](#) as amended. With no further discussion, Chairperson Salmon recognized Rep. Jeneary for closing remarks on [HSB 135](#). Rep. Jeneary moved the bill as amended. The bill was moved and passed by a vote of 16 Aye, 0 Nay, and 1 Absent. The bill will move to the House floor as a Veterans Affairs Committee bill.

Chairperson Salmon read the story of Marine Staff Sergeant Jimmie E. Howard from Burlington, Iowa. He was one of eighteen in a troop that were dropped behind enemy lines in Vietnam. His troop fought an overnight battle where they later found out the 18 had fought a full battalion of 300 Vietnamese troops. Staff Sergeant Howard was awarded with the Congressional Medal of Honor. The floor was turned over to Representative Gustafson who shared how he was stationed nearby where Staff Sergeant Howard's troop fought that historic night.

As there was no further business to come before the committee, Representative Gaines moved to adjourn at 1:35 p.m.

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Representative Sandy Salmon

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Susan R. Foster, Committee Secretary