

Chairperson:	Ray Aguilar
Committee:	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing:	February 1, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

This bill serves to simplify the collection of death benefits for a deceased Nebraska veteran. Currently, the language of the statute has been interpreted to mean that only next of kin who are also veterans could file for burial expenses.

This bill simplifies the process of collecting these benefits for the next of kin by removing the ambiguous language limiting the collection filing to only veteran family members, and by giving a county veterans service officer the power to apply on behalf of the deceased for assistance with burial expenses if no next of kin are available to apply.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Scott Lautenbaugh