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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 73, L.D. 108, “An Act to Authorize the Release of Military Records to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the Purposes of Suicide Reporting and Prevention”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §509, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Release of information about military status; suicide reporting and prevention.

Upon request by an authorized representative of the Department of the Attorney General, Office of Chief Medical Examiner in the conduct of official duties and with the permission of a deceased person's next of kin, the bureau may release information regarding the deceased person's military service to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the purposes of suicide reporting and prevention. If the deceased person has no next of kin, the bureau may release information regarding the deceased person's military service to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the purposes of this subsection.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill. The amendment provides that the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management may release information regarding a deceased person's military service to the Department of the Attorney General, Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the purposes of suicide reporting and prevention only with permission of the deceased person's next of kin. The amendment also provides that if the deceased person has no next of kin, the bureau may release information regarding the deceased person's military service to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for purposes of suicide reporting and prevention.