Tab 1	SB 104 by Harrell (CO-INTRODUCERS) Wright, Cruz, Mayfield; (Identical to H 00687) Services for
	Veterans and Their Families

#### The Florida Senate

**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA** 

#### MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND SPACE Senator Wright, Chair Senator Cruz, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: TIME: PLACE:	2:00—3:30 p.m.			
MEMBERS:	MEMBERS: Senator Wright, Chair; Senator Cruz, Vice Chair; Senators Broxson, Gainer, Harrell, Piz Torres			
BILL NO and INTR	DUCER SE	BILL DESCRIPTION and NATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION	

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1 <b>SB 104</b> Harrell		Services for Veterans and Their Families; Requiring the Department of Veterans' Affairs to establish the Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program to provide for veterans and their families behavioral health care referral and care coordination services; requiring the department to contract with a certain nonprofit entity to enter into agreements with Florida 211 Network participants to provide such services; providing for the statewide delivery of specified services by program teams, etc.	Favorable Yeas 7 Nays 0
		MS 10/22/2019 Favorable CF AP	
2	Presentation by Major General Jan Affairs	nes O. Eifert, Adjunct General, Department of Military	Presented

3 Presentation by Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair, Florida Defense Alliance

Presented

Other Related Meeting Documents

#### The Florida Senate BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs							
BILL:	SB 104						
INTRODUCER:	Senator Harrell						
SUBJECT: Services for Veterans and Their Families							
DATE:	October 21	1, 2019	REVISED:				
ANAL	YST	STAFF	DIRECTOR	REFERENCE		ACTION	
. Brown		Caldwe	ell	MS	Favorable		
2.				CF			
3.				AP			
3				AP			

#### I. Summary:

SB 104 creates the Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program (Program), to provide veterans and their families dedicated behavioral health care referral services, primarily for mental health and substance abuse. Through the Program, a veteran may call a separate veteran-dedicated support line to receive assistance and support from a fellow veteran who is trained to respond to the calls for assistance.

The bill requires the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) to establish the Program. To provide services, the FDVA will contract with a nonprofit entity that has statewide phone capacity to serve veterans and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and fully accredited by the Alliance of Information and Referral Services. The contracting entity will enter into agreements with Florida 211 Network participants to provide services to veterans.

The bill models the Program after the pilot program established in 2014 by the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay and the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Manatee Counties.

The bill specifies goals, services, and follow-up requirements.

The FDVA must compile data collected by the Florida 211 Network into a report for the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 15, 2020.

The bill has a significant fiscal impact on state government. Annual recurring costs are estimated at \$2 million from General Revenue.

#### II. Present Situation:

#### Veterans and Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse

More than 1.5 million veterans currently live in Florida, making the state the third largest population of veterans nationally.<sup>1</sup> Veterans face unique challenges, and some struggle with mental health and substance abuse.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a psychiatric disorder that can occur in people who have experienced or witnessed a traumatic event, including war or combat.<sup>2</sup>

The National Center for PTSD, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), lists the percentage of veterans with PTSD by service era:

- Between 11 and 20 percent of veterans who served in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom have PTSD in a given year.
- About 12 percent of veterans who served in the Gulf War have PTSD in a given year.
- About 15 percent of veterans of the Vietnam War were diagnosed with PTSD at the time of the most recent study in the late 1980's. However, it is estimated that about 30 percent of veterans of the Vietnam War have had PTSD in their lifetimes.<sup>3</sup>

A strong association exists between PTSD and substance abuse disorders (SUD) amongst veterans. Statistics show:

- More than two in 10 veterans with PTSD also have SUD;
- Almost one in three veterans seeking treatment for SUD also have PTSD;
- About one in 10 veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan seen at the VA have problems with alcohol or other drugs.<sup>4</sup>

Suicide rates for veterans continue to be a cause of national concern:

- More than 6,000 veterans committed suicide each year from 2008 to 2016.
- In 2016, the suicide rate was 1.5 times greater for veterans than for non-veteran adults, after adjusting for age and gender.

From 2005 to 2016, the increase in suicide rate among veterans in Veterans Hospital Administration (VHA) care was lower than among veterans not in VHA care.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, *Our Veterans*, available at <u>http://floridavets.org/our-veterans/</u> (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> American Psychiatric Association, *What is Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*?, available at https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/ptsd/what-is-ptsd (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> National Center for PTSD, U.S. Dep't of Veterans Affairs, *How Common is PTSD in Veterans?*, available at <u>https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/common/common\_veterans.asp</u> (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> National Center for PTSD, U.S. Dep't of Veterans Affairs, *PTSD and Substance Abuse in Veterans*, available at <u>https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/related/substance\_abuse\_vet.asp</u> (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, U.S. Dep't of Veterans Affairs, *VA National Suicide Data Report 2005-2016*, available at <u>https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/docs/data-sheets/OMHSP\_National\_Suicide\_Data\_Report\_2005-2016\_508.pdf</u> (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

#### Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS)

Each year, 16 million people in the United States call 2-1-1 for help with basic needs like food and shelter, and emergency needs, such as mental health, addiction, and suicide intervention.<sup>6</sup> The Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS) is the 211 collaborative organization for the state responsible for designing, studying, and implementing the Florida 211 Network.<sup>7</sup> The mission of the FLAIRS is to strengthen the health and human service information and referral provider network in the state through advocacy, coordination, and education.<sup>8</sup>

The Florida 211 Network, established in s. 408.918, F.S., operates as the single point of coordination for information and referral of health and human services.<sup>9</sup> As of February 20, 2017, 22 Florida 211 Network providers operate across the state.<sup>10</sup>

To participate in the Florida 211 Network, a 211 provider must be fully accredited by the National Alliance of Information and Referral Services or have received approval to operate, pending accreditation from its affiliate, the FLAIRS.<sup>11</sup>

#### The Council on Accreditation

The Council on Accreditation (COA) is an international accrediting entity that accredits private and public organizations and programs that provide human services.<sup>12</sup> The COA specifically accredits entities providing child welfare, behavioral health, and community-based social services.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Pilot Program and Statewide Expansion**

#### Pilot Program

In 2014, the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay launched a pilot program through its existing 211 Network to offer a separate dedicated phone line for state veterans in need of support. The Program expanded existing 211 services, including behavioral health care service referrals, to veterans in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Manatee counties.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS), *211 Counts.org*, available at

http://www.flairs.org/211counts/ (last visited Oct. 10, 2019). For a breakdown of needs by center on the FLAIRS website, see *What are the Most Pressing Needs for Your Community?*, available at <u>https://211counts.org/home/index</u> (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Section 408.918(3), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS), *Mission*, available at <u>http://www.flairs.org/mission/</u> (last visited Oct. 11, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Section 408.918(1), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS), *Florida 2-1-1 Network Map*, available at <u>http://www.flairs.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2017/03/FL-211-providers-and-coverage-areas-022717.pdf</u> (last visited Oct. 11, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Section 408.918(2), F.S.; The full accreditation process requires a remote database review, consultation component, on-site review, and demonstration of a call handling component, as well as payment of a membership fee. https://www.airs.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3286 (last visited Oct. 15, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Council on Accreditation, available at <u>http://coanet.org/home/</u> (last visited Oct. 11, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Council on Accreditation, available at <u>http://coanet.org/about/whats-new/about-coa/</u> (last visited Oct. 11, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Specific Appropriation 595, ch. 2014-51, L.O.F., available at <u>http://laws.flrules.org/2014/51</u> (last visited Oct. 11, 2019).

Under the Crisis Center's Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination model, callers to the support line talk to a fellow veteran who will provide emotional support and assistance and referral to VA and non-VA services, including for medical care, housing, counseling, legal, and employment assistance.<sup>15</sup>

#### History of Funding for the Pilot Program

Since the launch of the pilot program, funding has been provided as follows:

- July 2014 June 2015: The 2014 Legislature provided an appropriation of \$150,000 in nonrecurring funds to the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay to create the pilot program. With the appropriation, in August 2014, the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay expanded its services to veterans and hired veterans to answer crisis calls. The Crisis Center launched the Florida Veterans Support Line in November 2014. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has continued the annual appropriation of \$150,000 to continue the pilot program, from July 2015 to the present time.<sup>16</sup>
- <u>July 2017 June 2018</u>: The Legislature funded \$400,000 in nonrecurring dollars from general revenue through the FDVA for statewide expansion of the dedicated call line and a marketing campaign to inform the public about the call line. Funding was not allotted for statewide Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination.<sup>17</sup> To date, this was the last legislative appropriation provided.
- <u>September 2018 September 2019</u>: The FDVA provided \$1 million in funding for the statewide program, including Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination. To ensure full statewide implementation, the DCF matched the FDVA's funding through a federal grant.<sup>18</sup>

#### Use of the Program by Veterans

Since the Crisis Center implemented the pilot program in 2014, veteran and veteran family participation has steadily increased.

Region Served	Fiscal Year	Veterans Served	Services Referred	Suicide Concerns	Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination - Crisis Center of Tampa Bay Only
5 Counties	2014-2015	1,135	925	179	626
5 Counties	2015-2016	1,315	1,478	207	750
5 Counties	2016-2017	3,420	3,641	538	768
Statewide	2017-2018	28,962	49,932	396 <sup>19</sup>	880 <sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, *Florida Veterans Support Line, What we offer*, available at <u>https://www.myflvet.com/about-1</u> (last visited Oct. 14, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, *Overview of Current Funding* (on file with the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Id.*, The nonrecurring \$400,000 is provided in Specific Appropriation 575 of ch. 2017-70, L.O.F., available at <u>http://laws.flrules.org/2017/70</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, *supra* note 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Crisis Center Tampa Bay only.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, *Overview of the 1-844-MYFLVET Support Line* (on file with the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space).

#### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 104 creates the Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program (Program) as a statewide program, to provide veterans and their families dedicated behavioral health care referral services, primarily for mental health and substance abuse. Through the Program, a veteran who calls a dedicated support line receives assistance and support from a trained fellow veteran.

The bill requires the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) to establish the Program. To provide services, the FDVA will contract with a nonprofit entity that has statewide phone capacity to serve veterans and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and fully accredited by the National Alliance of Information and Referral Services. The entity will enter into agreements with Florida 211 Network participants to provide services to veterans.

The bill models the Program after the pilot program established in 2014 by the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay and the FDVA in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Manatee Counties.

#### **Program Goals and Services**

Program goals are to:

- Prevent suicide by veterans; and to
- Increase the use by veterans of programs and services provided by the VA and other available community-based programs and services.

Program services will include:

- Telephonic peer support, crisis intervention, and information on referral resources;
- Treatment coordination, including coordination of follow-up care;
- Assessment of suicide risk as part of an immediate needs assessment, including safety planning and support;
- Promotion of the safety and wellness of veterans and their families, including continuous safety planning and support;
- Resource coordination, including data analysis, to facilitate acceptance, enrollment, and attendance of veterans and their families in programs and services provided by the VA and other available community-based programs and services.

The bill requires program teams to:

- Document calls and data, and track the number and nature of requests from veterans and family members;
- Follow up with callers to determine if they have pursued referrals and whether additional help is needed; and
- Implement communication strategies to educate veterans and their families about programs and services provided by the VA and other community-based programs and services.

To educate others about the Program:

• Florida 211 network participants will establish and maintain a database of services available locally.

• Both the FDVA and its contractor will work with managing entities to educate service providers about the Florida Veterans Support Line and the Program.

#### **Data Collection and Report**

Florida 211 Network participants must provide all collected data to the FDVA. By December 15, 2021, the FDVA will then submit a report to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The report must include:

- The nature, number, and outcome of each call received;
- Demographic information on each caller; and
- Follow-up by the program team, including timeliness and positive outcomes.

To fully implement the Program statewide, the bill will require an annual recurring amount of \$2 million from the General Revenue Fund. The bill does not provide for funding.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.

#### IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

The bill does not appear to require cities and counties to expend funds or limit their authority to raise revenue or receive state-shared revenues as specified by Article VII, Section 18 of the State Constitution.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

#### V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

#### B. Private Sector Impact:

Veterans and their families may financially benefit from having greater access to treatments and services specifically designed for veterans with mental health or substance abuse issues, including programs offered through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and community-based services.

#### C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill requires the FDVA to provide statewide dedicated behavioral healthcare referral services, as well as mental health and substance abuse services to veterans and their families through the state's 211 Network. Therefore, the bill has a significant fiscal impact on state government. Annual recurring costs are estimated at \$2 million from the General Revenue Fund.

#### VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

#### VII. Related Issues:

None.

#### VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 394.9087, Florida Statutes.

#### IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

SB 104

By Senator Harrell

25-00199-20 2020104 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to services for veterans and their families; creating s. 394.9087, F.S.; requiring the Department of Veterans' Affairs to establish the Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program to provide for veterans and their families behavioral health care referral and care coordination services; requiring the department to contract with a certain nonprofit entity С to enter into agreements with Florida 211 Network 10 participants to provide such services; providing 11 program goals; providing for the statewide delivery of 12 specified services by program teams; requiring Florida 13 211 Network participants to collect program 14 implementation data and to submit such data to the 15 department; requiring the department to submit a 16 report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified 17 date; providing requirements for the report; providing 18 an effective date. 19 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 21 22 Section 1. Section 394.9087, Florida Statutes, is created 23 to read: 24 394.9087 Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program.-25 (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall establish the 26 Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program. The Department of 27 Veterans' Affairs shall contract with a nonprofit entity that is 2.8 accredited by the Council on Accreditation, is fully accredited 29 by the National Alliance of Information and Referral Services,

Page 1 of 5

 $\textbf{CODING: Words } \underline{stricken} \text{ are deletions; words } \underline{underlined} \text{ are additions.}$ 

25-00199-20 2020104 30 and has statewide phone capacity to serve veterans, to enter 31 into agreements with Florida 211 Network participants to provide 32 veterans and their families in this state with dedicated 33 behavioral health care referral services, especially mental 34 health and substance abuse services. The Department of Veterans' 35 Affairs shall model the program after the proof-of-concept pilot 36 program established in 2014 by the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay 37 and the Department of Veterans' Affairs in Hillsborough, Pasco, 38 Pinellas, Polk, and Manatee Counties. 39 (2) The goals of the program are to: 40 (a) Prevent suicides by veterans. 41 (b) Increase veterans' use of programs and services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. 42 43 (c) Increase the number of veterans who use other available 44 community-based programs and services. 45 (3) The program must be available statewide. Program services must be provided by program teams operated by Florida 46 47 211 Network participants as authorized by s. 408.918. A Florida 48 211 Network participant may provide services in more than one 49 geographic area under a single contract. 50 (4) The program teams shall provide referral and care 51 coordination services to veterans and their families and expand 52 the existing Florida 211 Network to include the optimal range of 53 veterans' service organizations and programs. Florida 211 Network participants in the Florida Veterans' Care Coordination 54 Program must include all of the following: 55 56 (a) Telephonic peer support, crisis intervention, and the 57 communication of information on referral resources. 58 (b) Treatment coordination, including coordination of

#### Page 2 of 5

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SB 104

	25-00199-20 2020104
59	followup care.
60	(c) Suicide risk assessment.
61	(d) Promotion of the safety and wellness of veterans and
62	their families, including continuous safety planning and
63	support.
64	(e) Resource coordination, including data analysis, to
65	facilitate acceptance, enrollment, and attendance of veterans
66	and their families in programs and services provided by the
67	United States Department of Veterans Affairs and other available
68	community-based programs and services.
69	(f) Immediate needs assessments, including safety planning
70	and support.
71	(5) To enhance program services, program teams shall:
72	(a) Track the number of requests from callers who are
73	veterans or members of a veteran's family.
74	(b) Follow up with callers who are veterans or members of a
75	veteran's family to determine whether they have acted on the
76	referrals or received the assistance needed and whether
77	additional referral or advocacy is needed.
78	(c) Develop and implement communication strategies, such as
79	media promotions, public service announcements, print and
80	Internet articles, and community presentations, to inform
81	veterans and their families about available programs and
82	services provided by the United States Department of Veterans
83	Affairs and other available community-based programs and
84	services.
85	(d) Document all calls and capture all necessary data to
86	improve outreach to veterans and their families and report such
87	data to the contracted entity.
1	Page 3 of 5

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

	25-00199-20 2020104
88	(6) Florida 211 Network participants in the Florida
89	Veterans' Care Coordination Program shall maintain a database of
90	veteran-specific services available in the communities served by
91	the programs. The Department of Veterans' Affairs and its
92	selected contractor shall work with managing entities as defined
93	in s. 394.9082(2)(e) to educate service providers about the
94	Florida Veterans Support Line and the Florida Veterans' Care
95	Coordination Program.
96	(7) Florida 211 Network participants shall collect data on
97	the program and submit such data to the Department of Veterans'
98	Affairs in the format prescribed by the Department of Veterans'
99	Affairs. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall use such data
100	to prepare a report for submittal to the Governor, the President
101	of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
102	by December 15, 2021. The report must include all of the
103	following:
104	(a) The number of calls received.
105	(b) Demographic information for each caller, including, but
106	not limited to, the caller's military affiliation, the caller's
107	veteran status, and whether the caller is receiving services
108	provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or
109	other available community-based programs and services.
110	(c) The nature of each call, including, but not limited to,
111	the concerns prompting the call and the services requested.
112	(d) The outcome of each call, including, but not limited
113	to, the services for which referrals were made and the
114	organizations to which the caller was referred.
115	(e) Services received as a result of each call.
116	(f) Information regarding followup by the program team,
	Page 4 of 5

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

	25-00199-20 2020104							
117	including, but not limited to, the percentage of calls receiving							
118	followup and the outcome of followup.							
119	(g) Information regarding the program's impact on each							
120	caller's quality of life and on the avoidance of negative							
121	outcomes, including arrest and suicide.							
122	(h) Each caller's level of satisfaction with program							
123	services.							
124	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.							
	Page 5 of 5							
	CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.							

The of the state of the Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD
10/22/2019 (Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)
Meeting Date Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic Services for Veterans & Their Families Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Allison Sitte ("city")
Job Title Legislative Affairs Director
Address 400 S. Monroe Street, Ste 2105 Phone 850-487-1533
Tallahassee FL 32399 City State Zip Email Sittead Fdva. State. FLUS
Speaking:   For   Against   Information   Waive Speaking:   In Support   Against     (The Chair will read this information into the record.)
Representing Florida Dept. Of Veterahs' Affairs
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No
M/bile it is a Canada tradition to an accuracy within the time we there we it all a second to be a second to be

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THE FLORIDA	SENATE
APPEARANC	E RECORD
D/22 (Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Se	enate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)
Meeting Date	Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic Veterin Survices	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name TRAVIS Mitch// (Tra	avis Mitchell
Job Title 10 bby 137	2612697298
Address PG BOD 27468	Phone 386 797298
	33607 Email Fravis Mischell Ogni
City State Speaking: For Against Information	Zip Waive Speaking: In Support Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)
Representing Crisis Center of Ta	MPT BAY
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lo	obbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No
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### THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

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10/22/19

SB 104

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Services for Veterans and	Their Families - 202	20	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Dorene Barker			<u>.</u>
Job Title Associate State Director	for Advocacy		
Address 200 West College Avenu	ue, Suite 304A		Phone 850 228-6387
Street Tallahassee	FL	32301	Email dobarker@aarp.org
<i>City</i> Speaking: For Against	State		peaking: In Support Against ir will read this information into the record.)
Representing	, 		
Appearing at request of Chair:	Yes 🖌 No	Lobbyist regist	ered with Legislature: 🖌 Yes 🗌 No
While it is a Senate tradition to encourag meeting. Those who do speak may be as	e public testimony, time sked to limit their remar	e may not permit all ks so that as many	persons wishing to speak to be heard at this persons as possible can be heard.
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THE FLORIDA SENATE	
APPEARANCE RECORD	. (
10/22/19 (Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting	a)
Meeting Date	Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic LERANS Services American	ndment Barcode (if applicable)
Name DAN HENDRICKSON	
Job Title Resident TVLC	6/
Address $39278787$ Phone $52$	5701761
Street Bland Plant 2730 Email Labore	Avok Son@Comcoot.
City State Zip   Speaking: For Against Information Waive Speaking: Information   (The Chair will read this information Information Information Information	Support Against
Representing Talkhuse Veterns Cege Collabore	The
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legisla	ature: Yes No

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Meeting Date			-	SBIGL	( if applicable)
Topic <u>Services</u>	for Velerans 2T	Mir Familit	S Ame	ndment Barcode	
Name <u>Hather</u>	- Davidson	2011 14 MAA			
Job Title Directo	STIPUBLIC Policy				
Address <u>1300 3</u>	S. Andrews A	R.	Phone	13080	1770
Street Fort (	auderdate, FL	33316	Email <u>Walavi</u>	tson Quar	orauard.org
City Speaking:	Against Information	Zip Waive S (The Cha	peaking: In s		Against record.)
Representing <u>Ur</u>	ited way or	Broward	County		
Appearing at request	of Chair: Yes No	Lobbyist regist	ered with Legisla	ature: V	

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The Florida Senate	
APPEARANCE RECO	RD Contraction
Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional State (Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional State)	K
Topic <u>Services by Veterans and their families</u>	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Amanda Gorski	
Job Title Director, Public Policy	
Address 3250 SIN 3M AVE	Phone 325 646 7024
Street MiAmi Fl 33/29	GORSKIA @ Email Unifectustymiami - 010
City State Zip	
Speaking: For Against Information Waive Sp (The Chair	peaking: In Support Against will read this information into the record.)
Representing United Way of MAMI - PAde	
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registe	ered with Legislature: Yes No
$14/(-1) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right]$	

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



#### THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

#### COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEES: Health Policy, *Chair* Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, *Vice Chair* Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Military and Veterans Affairs and Space

JOINT COMMITTEE: Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

SENATOR GAYLE HARRELL 25th District

August 19, 2019

Senator Tom Wright 312 Senate Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Chair Wright,

I respectfully request that SB 104 - Services for Veterans and Their Families be placed on the next available agenda for the Committee Meeting on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Thank you,

Gayle

Senator Gayle Harrell Senate District 25

Diana Caldwell, Staff Director Cc: Lois Graham, Committee Administrative Assistant

**REPLY TO:** 

□ 215 SW Federal Highway, Suite 203, Stuart, Florida 34994 (772) 221-4019 □ 310 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5025

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov



#### Overview of the 1-844-MYFLVET Support Line Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

	Fiscal		Services	Suicide	Care Coordination by Peers - Crisis
Region Served	Year	Veterans Served	Referred	Concerns	Center Only
5 Counties served by the Crisis Center	2015	1135	925	179	626
5 Counties served by the Crisis Center	2016	1315	1478	207	750
5 Counties served by the Crisis Center	2017	3420	3641	538	768
Statewide - 1st Year	2018	28,962	49,932	396 – Crișis Center only	880

Funding for the statewide expansion ended on June 30, 2018. That funding was to answer calls and provide referrals. It did not include Care Coordination. The VA funding began on September 28, 2018. The DCF funding began on March 1, 2019. Those resources will allow for the statewide expansion of call answering and Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination. Details of that funding is in this report.

#### **Overview**

The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (Crisis Center) executed contracts with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Florida Department of Children and Families to provide Crisis Intervention and Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination to Florida Veterans and their families. The service is to be provided utilizing the existing 2-1-1 network of providers throughout the state. The Crisis Center has recruited and is training eleven (11) providers that currently provide 2-1-1 call center services. These providers have entered into a subcontract with the Crisis Center to expand their services. When fully functional, the program will employ 32 Veterans around the state to provide Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination and Resource Development/Management in every county of the state.

#### **Background Information**

According to the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), Florida currently is home to over 1.5 million veteran residents, making it the state with the third largest population of veterans in the nation. In

#### **Background Narrative**

According to the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), Florida currently is home to over 1.5 million veteran residents, making it the state with the third largest population of veterans in the nation. In 2014, the Statewide Veterans Advisory Council and Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS) recognized that we could be doing a better job of caring for our veterans and decided to take action to fill this service gap. This group wanted to create a phone line similar to 2-1-1 information and referral lines that was dedicated solely to connecting Florida's veterans with needed community and VA-funded services.

The concept was brought to the attention of the Crisis Center and we quickly realized this effort fit perfectly in line with our mission and vision. In addition to the dedicated phone line, the Crisis Center recognized that it would be beneficial for veterans to speak to a peer – a fellow veteran who has experienced the transition from military to civilian life. Our experience with suicidal callers, and research by SAMSHA, reinforced the importance of providing care coordination services to callers in order to increase engagement and successful outcomes.

In the 2014 Legislative session, the State of Florida appropriated funding for the first year of the Florida Veteran Support Line. The State budget included \$150,000 to be distributed to the Crisis Center through the Florida Department of Veteran Affairs (FDVA). The Crisis Center was tasked with creating an operational service for the five-county area around Tampa Bay – Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Manatee Counties. The funding was used to establish a dedicated phone line (1-844-MYFLVET), hire and train Peer-to-Peer Care Coordinators, maintain a veteran-specific resource database, conduct marketing and outreach, and manage daily operations. The Department of Children and Families continued that funding after the FDVA funding ended. DCF continues that funding.

In 2017, the FDVA provided one-time funding of \$400,000 to expand the 844-MYFLVET line statewide. The funding was used for training and implementation of frontline call answering by 2-1-1 agencies around the state. Funding was also used to create and implement a statewide marketing campaign to raise awareness toward the 844-MYFLVET line. There was no funding to expand the Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination component of the program.

In 2018, the Veterans Administration agreed to partially-fund the implementation of Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination around the state. The Department of Children and Families agreed to match the VA funding to ensure a full statewide implementation.

#### The Future

Beginning in October 2018, The Veterans Administration and the Department of Children and Families are funding a statewide expansion of Care Coordination through the 844-MYFLVET line. The DCF funding is limited to two years and **will end in September 2020**. Agencies around the state will have hired and trained **33 veterans** to provide Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination and Resource Management. By that time, **21 of those veterans** will be *Certified Peer Specialists* after completing an 18-month training process to earn that certification by the Florida Certification Board. **Recurring funding** for this program is critical to ensure that the two years of statewide expansion does not just fade away, leaving tens of thousands of vulnerable veterans without access to ongoing support and linkages.

#### Why This Matters

- Expansion of MyFLVet Support Line Call Handling statewide began on July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Agencies were not funded or trained to provide Care Coordination. They were answering calls from Veterans and providing Information and Referral.
  - ✓ 28,962 calls from Veterans
  - ✓ 42,932 referrals to services
- Meanwhile, the Crisis Center was providing Care Coordination to Veterans in Hillsborough County.
  - ✓ The Crisis Center served **880** veterans in <u>Care Coordination</u> in the same time-period
  - ✓ Of the 880 veterans served through Care Coordination, 204 or 23% were considering suicide
- Expansion of MyFLVet <u>Care Coordination</u> statewide began on November 1, 2018 for half the state. The DCF portion of the project will begin in March 2019.
  - ✓ **3,564 calls** from veterans
  - ✓ **5,133 referrals** to services
  - ✓ So far, **315** veterans have received <u>Care Coordination</u> services in the same time-period. (Most agencies are only just starting Care Coordination)
  - ✓ Of the 315 veterans served through Care Coordination thus far, 163 or 52% were considering suicide

#### **History of the Crisis Center Pilot Program**

**2015:** Funding through the FDVA \$150,000

2016 -2018: Funding through the Department of Children and Families \$150,000 per year

#### **Statewide Expansion**

**2017:** Funding through the FDVA to expand the MYFLVET Line statewide - without Care Coordination. \$400,000

**2018:** Funding for the statewide expansion ended on June 30, 2018. The VA funding began on September 28, 2018. The DCF funding began on March 1, 2019. Those resources will allow for the statewide expansion of responding to calls and Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination.

#### **Consistent Funding**

Consistent funding will allow the Crisis Center to do the following:

- Identify other 2-1-1 agencies who will provide Peer Veteran Care Coordination
- Crisis Center will train 2-1-1 agencies across the state on how to recruit, support and retain veteran peers to provide Care Coordination and to ensure fidelity to a proven successful model
- Continue Awareness and Outreach Efforts through advertising and marketing "If they can't find us, we can't help"
- Support efforts to identify appropriate service providers across the state and manage that information to keep it up to date and relevant to the needs of veterans and their families



#### 1-844-MYFLVET Support Line Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

#### **Overview of Current Funding**

The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (Crisis Center) executed contracts with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Florida Department of Children and Families to provide Crisis Intervention and Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination to Florida Veterans and their families. The service is to be provided utilizing the existing 2-1-1 network of providers throughout the state. The Crisis Center has recruited and is training eleven (11) providers that currently provide 2-1-1 call center services. These providers have entered into a subcontract with the Crisis Center to expand their services. When fully functional, the program will employ 32 Veterans around the state to provide Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination and Resource Development/Management in every county of the state.

#### **Pilot Program**

**July 2014 – June 2015:** Nonrecurring legislative funding through the FDVA - \$150,000 – for the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay as a pilot program. To establish a Veterans Crisis Line (844-MYFLVET) and to hire veterans to answer crisis calls and to provide Care Coordination (follow-up) from a veteran peer.

**July 2015 – Present:** Funding from the budget of the Department of Children and Families -\$150,000 to continue the pilot from 2015.

#### Statewide Expansion

**July 2017 – June 2018:** Budget appropriations requested by Senator Latvala. Presented and recommended by Appropriations Committee, Senator Florres, to provide funding through the FDVA to expand the MYFLVET Line statewide, but without Care Coordination - \$400,000 nonrecurring. Funding for technology to expand the 844-MYFLVET line. Funding for statewide marketing campaign to promote the line.

#### **Current Funding**

September 28, 2018 - September 27, 2019: Department of Veterans Affairs: \$1,000,000 – There is a multi-year option for three more years at \$1,000,000 per year. To subcontract with 2-1-1 providers statewide to expand Care Coordination for Veterans who call 844-MYFLVET. Total Duration: September 2018 – September 2021

**February 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019**: Department of Children and Families to match the VA funding: \$538,000 – There is a second-year option for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 at \$1,000,000 for one year. Total Duration: February 2019 – June 2020 2014, the Statewide Veterans Advisory Council and Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services (FLAIRS) recognized that we could be doing a better job of caring for our veterans and decided to take action to fill this service gap. This group wanted to create a phone line similar to 2-1-1 information and referral lines that was dedicated solely to connecting Florida's veterans with needed community and VA-funded services.

The concept was brought to the attention of the Crisis Center and we quickly realized this effort fit perfectly in line with our mission and vision. In addition to the dedicated phone line, the Crisis Center recognized that it would be beneficial for veterans to speak to a peer – a fellow veteran who has experienced the transition from military to civilian life. Our experience with suicidal callers, and research by SAMSHA, reinforced the importance of providing care coordination services to callers in order to increase engagement and successful outcomes.

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In 2017, the FDVA provided one-time funding of \$400,000 to expand the 844-MYFLVET line statewide. The funding was used for training and implementation of frontline call answering by 2-1-1 agencies around the state. Funding was also used to create and implement a statewide marketing campaign to raise awareness toward the 844-MYFLVET line. There was no funding to expand the Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination component of the program.

In 2018, the Veterans Administration agreed to partially fund the implementation of Peer-to-Peer Care Coordination around the state. The Department of Children and Families agreed to match the VA funding to ensure a full statewide implementation.

#### Why Peer-to-Peer Coordination?

According to the National Institute of Health (NIH)

Veterans identified numerous potential benefits to a peer support program, including social support, purpose and meaning, normalization of symptoms and hope, and therapeutic benefits. Veterans also identified ways that peer support could complement psychotherapy for PTSD by increasing initiation and adherence to treatment and supporting continued use of skills after termination. Results also indicated that Veterans might prefer peer support groups that are separated according to trauma type, gender, and era of service. Other findings highlighted the importance of the leadership and interpersonal skills of a peer support group leader. Overall, Veterans found peer support to be a highly acceptable complement to existing PTSD treatments with few drawbacks. (Hundt NE, Robinson A, Arney J, Stanley MA, Cully JA August 2015)





# THE FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

# **Briefing for**

Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space October 22, 2019

Major General James Eifert The Adjutant General







- Mission/Organization
- Chain of Command
- Federal Response
- State Response
- Programs That Add Value







# **Provide highly trained units and personnel to:**

- Support national security objectives
- Respond to emergencies and disasters
- Support programs which add value to our state and nation

# Florida National Guard Units





# Florida Army National Guard Mobilization Status



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## Florida Air National Guard **Mobilization Status**



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## **Responding to State Emergencies** Disaster Response Capabilities



## **Currently Available and Accessible**

Approx 11,500 Soldiers and Airmen serving; will activate personnel as directed by the Governor

- Capabilities:

SecurityTransportationEngineersAviationHumanitarianLiaisons

Fire Fighting Search & Rescue Evacuation

- 500 member quick reaction force
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact

**Unparalleled Experience in Support to Civil Authorities** 

 Long-standing relationships with local, state and federal partners

Hurricanes, storms, floods, wildfires, tornadoes, mass evacuation

- Immigration Control - Haiti, Southwest Border



**1992 to 2019 - 97 Activations – 968,171 Total Work-Days** 



# **Responding to State Emergencies** Hurricane Michael Best Practices



### **Statewide Logistics Operations**

- Lead Logistics Planner for SEOC
- Established sustainment plan for entire State
- Managed and operated State Logistics Readiness Center
- Established Two Logistical Staging Areas
  - o Tallahassee
  - o Marianna
- Distributed to 83 Points of Distribution (Spokes)

## Search & Rescue (SAR)

- Trusted mission partners with state, regional and federal SAR units
- Relationships built upon tough training and exercises
- Early activation and coordination = "on time" to need
- Joint mission with multiple Army and Air units across the state.
- Federal SAR Coordinator proclaims Florida SAR operations as the "standard for the Nation"

## **Communication Immersion**

- 90% complete power outage in the affected area
- County and Municipality EOCs "Black" on communications
- FLNG tactical and commercial voice and data assets create "signal grid" across the affected area
- Enabling civil authorities to improve Mission Command
- Deployed twenty-one signal nodes across eleven counties

## Responding to State Emergencies Hurricane Michael - Overview

172,608

TACTICAL VEHICL

## FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD JTF-FL HURRICANE MICHAEL SUPPORT



DSD RES CLEARED RESCUES

COMMUNICATION SETS



## **Programs that Add Value** Community Role










#### TOTAL LBR Request: \$14,075,270 (\$2M in Trust Funds; \$12M in GR)

<u>Priority 1</u> – Education Dollars for Duty (EDD) – Statewide (General Revenue, recurring) \$1,032,100

<u>Priority 2:</u> 25% State Match for Replacement of Panama City Readiness Center (General Revenue, non-recurring) \$6,250,000

<u>Priority 3:</u> Maintenance and Repair for Readiness Centers (General Revenue, Non-recurring) \$3,400,000

<u>Priority 4:</u> Seawall Reinforcement (General Revenue, Non-recurring) \$420,000

<u>Priority 5:</u> Multi-Agency Communication Capability – Satellite Terminals (General Revenue, Non-recurring) \$780,000

<u>Priority 6:</u> Workers' Compensation (General Revenue, Non-recurring) \$195,670

<u>Priority 7:</u> Transfer Switches, Generators, IT life cycle (Federal Grants, Non-recurring) \$203,000

<u>Priority 8:</u> Building Upgrades for Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (Trust Fund, Non-recurring) \$856,000

<u>Priority 9:</u> Equipment Life Cycle Replacement (Trust Fund, Non-recurring)

\$170,000

<u>Priority 10:</u> Equipment Life Cycle Replacement (Federal Grants, Non-recurring) \$768,500



# **Armory Funding Issues**



- FLNG currently maintains 62 armories at an average age of 48 years.
  - (St Francis Barracks 96; Winter Haven 83; Sanford 82; Tampa 80; Leesburg 70)
- DMA has a \$8.3M requirement in recurring maintenance & repair funds annually.
  - Armory Space = 1.5M square feet
  - Industry standard \$5.56 per sq ft per year (\$5.56 x 1.5M sq ft = ~\$8.3M)
- DMA has experienced a negative trend in maintenance and repair funds
- '17/'18 Received \$7.7M; '18/'19 Received \$0.0; '19/'20 Received \$1.1M



 Because we've experienced a sustained negative trend in Maint/Repair funding, we now have a significant deficit in funding & back log of unfunded projects.



# **Right, Ready, Relevant!**











www.fl.ng.mil/news http://dma.myflorida.com www.twitter.com/flguard (@flguard) www.facebook.com/floridanationalguard (@floridanationalguard)



#### THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date			Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic Presentation on Rept o	f Military	Affqiss	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Major General James 6	sifert 1		
Job Title Adjutant General of F	Torida		
Address 400 South Monroe		Phone _	850-414-9048
Street Tallahaesee FL City State	32399 Zip	Email	
Speaking: For Against Information	, Waive Sp		In Support Against is information into the record.)
Representing Dept of Military	APRILS		
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No	Lobbyist registe	ered with L	_egislature: 📃 Yes 🎽 No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

#### THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date	Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic Dept of Military Affairs	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Mark Jglesby	
Job Title Dir of Legislative Affan	2~
Address 400 S Monroe St	Phone 850-414-9048
Street Iallaharsee FC	32399 Mank troglesby . Nfg @ Mail . Mil Email
City State	Zip
Speaking: For Against Information	Waive Speaking: In Support Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)
Representing Dept of Military	Attais
Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No	Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)







# Florida's Support of the Military

# October 22, 2019













# FLORIDA DEFENSE ALLIANCE

### FLORIDA DEFENSE ALLIANCE

- ♦ History, Innovative Ideas & Successes
- ♦ Communication, Coordination & Cooperation

## ENCROACHMENT CHALLENGES

- Economic Development & Community Planning
- Encroachment and Involving the Military
- ♦ Mission Compatibility & Natural Resource Conservation
- ♦ Engagement for Policy & Legislation

# Florida Defense Alliance

- FDA created within EFI per FS 288.980.
- Members: volunteer community leaders, base representation and local economic development leaders.
- Networking and best-practices sharing.
- Legislative issue generation and support.
- Meet bi-annually / teleconference bi-annually.
- Two standing working groups:
  - Family Support
  - Mission Sustainment



# **FLORIDA – Encroachment Challenges**

- Sea & Air Space & Land Restrictions
- Airborne Noise
- Urban Growth
- Frequency Spectrum
- Endangered Species/Critical Habitat
- Energy Compatibility & Availability
- Air Quality
- Water

- Cultural Resources
- Unexploded Ordinance & Munitions
- Marine Resources
- Physical Security
- Proliferation of UAVs, UAS, & Drones
- Lights
- Foreign Interest, Mergers & Acquisitions
- Development in/around military assets

## FLORIDA PROGRAMS

#### State Land Acquisition Programs

Florida Forever

- ♦ Appropriated by the Legislature
- ♦Distributed by DEP
- ♦Purchase lands held in trust
- Rural & Family Lands Protection Program
  - ♦ Perpetual agriculture conservation easements
  - ♦ Preserve lands in agricultural use
  - Protection of aquifer recharge, natural resources and military base buffering

## FLORIDA PROGRAMS

- State Land Acquisition Programs
- Military Base Protection Program
- Non-conservation lands
- **♦**FS 288.980
- • Secure non-conservation lands as buffering
- **•** Lands not subject to acquisition by FFP
- Used for matching of federal funds

### Florida's Military Complex



## **Future Uses of Gulf Range**



## Active Oil and Natural Gas Leases

**BOEM Gulf of Mexico OCS Region** 









# Florida's Support of the Military

# October 22, 2019













T.	HE FLORIDA SENATE	
APPEA	RANCE RECO	RD
10/22/2019 (Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the second sec	ne Senator or Senate Professional S	staff conducting the meeting)
Meeting Date		Bill Number (if applicable)
Topic Florida Defense Allia	ncl	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Name Kellie Jo Kilberg		
Job Title Chairman, Florida Sefe	ense Alliance	
Address <u>321 Symphony</u> Way	-	Phone 904-210-7620
Freed FL City State	<u>32439</u>	Email Kikilberg @ hotmail.com
Speaking: For Against Informatio		peaking: In Support Against ir will read this information into the record.)
Representing Florida Befense A	Hiance	
Appearing at request of Chair: 🏹 Yes 🗌 No	D Lobbyist regist	ered with Legislature: Yes Ko
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S-001 (10/14/14)

#### CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** LL 37 Case No.: Type: Caption: Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, and Space Committee Judge: Started: 10/22/2019 2:00:26 PM Ends: 10/22/2019 3:05:14 PM Length: 01:04:49 2:00:25 PM Meeting called to order by Chair Wright 2:00:43 PM Chair ask Lois to call roll 2:00:54 PM Lois call roll an announce a quorum is present 2:01:33 PM Chair Wright ask Senator Torres to lead the Pledge of Allegiance 2:01:48 PM Chair Wright gave a brief opening 2:02:09 PM Chair Wright stated we have a bill by Senator Harrell, but we will have the presentation 2:02:30 PM TAB 2, Chair Wright welcome Major General James O. Eifert, Adjunct General, Dept. of Military Affairs 2:03:16 PM Major General Eifert gives presentation 2:20:05 PM Chair Wright ask if there are questions for Major General Eifert 2:20:18 PM Chair Wright calls on Senator Harrell 2:20:27 PM Senator Harrell speaking 2:21:22 PM Major General Eifert ask Mark Oglesby to answer Senator Harrell's guestion 2:21:50 PM Senator Harrell speaking 2:22:11 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:22:32 PM Senator Harrell speaking **2:22:38 PM** Major General Eifert speaking, as well as Mark Oglesby 2:23:59 PM Senator Harrell speaking 2:24:16 PM Mr. Oglesby speaking 2:24:32 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:25:10 PM Senator Harrell speaking 2:25:22 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:25:39 PM Senator Harrell speaking 2:25:48 PM Major General Eifert speaker 2:25:55 PM Chair Wright speaking 2:25:59 PM Senator Torres speaking 2:26:24 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:26:40 PM Senator Torres speaking 2:26:48 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:27:23 PM Senator Cruz speaking 2:28:23 PM Senator Pizzo speaking 2:28:48 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:28:56 PM Senator Pizzo speaking 2:29:37 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:30:20 PM Mr. Oglesby speaking 2:30:24 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:30:47 PM Chair Wright ask if there were more questions and gave a brief statement 2:31:10 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:31:22 PM Chair Wright speaking 2:31:25 PM Major General Eifert speaking 2:31:30 PM Chair Wright speaking 2:31:38 PM Major General Eifert speaking

2:32:22 PM Chair Wright thanks Major General Eifert for coming and presenting 2:32:40 PM TAB 1, SB 104 by Senator Harrell, Services for Veterans and Their Families. Chair Wright states, Senator Harrell you are recognized to explain the bill 2:33:17 PM Senator Harrell explains the bill 2:35:30 PM Chair Wright ask if there were questions on the bill **2:36:35 PM** Senator Pizzo ask a question 2:36:42 PM Senator Harrell answers 2:37:24 PM Senator Torres ask a question 2:37:38 PM Senator Harrell answers 2:38:16 PM Chair Wright states there are some appearance forms, Ms. Allison Sitte, Legislative Affairs Director, FL Dept. of Veterans' Affairs 2:38:25 PM Ms. Sitte waives in support 2:38:31 PM Travis Mitchell, Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, waives in support 2:38:38 PM Dorene Barker, Associate State Director for Advocacy waives in support 2:38:45 PM Dan Hendrickson, Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative speaking in support 2:40:55 PM Chair Wright ask if there were questions for Mr. Hendrickson, no questions 2:41:03 PM Heather Davidson, Director, Public Policy, United Way of Broward County waives in support 2:41:08 PM Amanda Gorski, Director, Public Policy, United Way of Miami-Dade waives in support 2:41:25 PM Chair Wright ask for debate 2:41:33 PM Senator Pizzo speaking 2:42:11 PM Chair Wright states to Senator Harrell that you may close on the bill 2:42:25 PM Senator Harrell closing on bill 2:42:44 PM Chair Wright ask Lois to call the roll on SB 104 **2:42:57 PM** Lois called the roll and the bill passes 2:43:22 PM TAB 3, Presentation by Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance Chair 2:43:53 PM Ms. Kilberg presenting **2:55:17 PM** Chair Wright ask were there any questions 2:56:19 PM Senator Gainer speaking 2:56:34 PM Ms. Kilberg speaking 2:56:49 PM Chair Wright ask if there were any more questions 2:56:57 PM Senator Broxson speaking 2:58:25 PM Chair Wright speaking 2:58:31 PM Senator Pizzo speaking 2:58:46 PM Kellie Jo speaking 2:59:32 PM Senator Pizzo speaking 2:59:50 PM Ms. Kilberg speaking 3:01:23 PM Chair Wright speaking 3:01:31 PM Ms. Kilberg speaking **3:02:32 PM** Chair Wright asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak 3:02:39 PM Senator Broxson speaking 3:04:30 PM Chair Wright speaking and thanked Ms. Kilberg for coming **3:04:41 PM** Chair Wright stated no further business before the committee

3:04:46 PM Chair Wright speaking, Senator Broxson moves we are adjourn