

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

BILL: CS/SB1864

SPONSOR: Education Committee and Senator Kirkpatrick

SUBJECT: High School Diplomas

DATE: April 4, 2000

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Esner	O'Farrell	ED	Favorable/CS
2.			FP	
3.				
4.				
5.				

I. Summary:

A high school diploma may be awarded by the Commissioner of Education to honorably discharged veterans who meet the following criteria:

- Started high school between 1937 and 1946;
- Scheduled to graduated between 1941 and 1950; and
- Inducted into the United States Armed Forces between 9/16/40 and 12/31/46 prior to completing high school graduation requirements.

The State Board of Education may develop criteria and guidelines for awarding such diplomas upon recommendation by the Commissioner of Education.

The act is to become effective upon becoming a law.

This bill amends section 232.246 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Florida is currently home to approximately 600,000 World War II veterans as reported in July 1998 by the Veterans Administration. Florida had 248,000 of its citizens serve in WWII, of that number 3,147 men and women lost their lives during the war. The number of resident Florida veterans eligible for the honorary high school diploma is not known.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill provides the Commissioner of Education with authority to issue a high school diploma to veterans of World War II who started high school but were inducted into the United States

Armed forces before their graduation. The State Board of Education may develop criteria for the issuance of a diploma.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Private vendors may have an opportunity to print the diplomas and advertizing posters and brochures.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The advertising of the program by either the Florida Department of Veteran's Affair and/or the Department of Education will generate costs.

There will be costs for the development and printing of the diplomas.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.