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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/12/2026	.	
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The Committee on Criminal Justice (Gaetz) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 21 - 42
and insert:
requirements provided in ~~under~~ subsection (8) may be admitted to
a veterans treatment court program at any stage of a criminal
proceeding. Entry into a veterans treatment court program must
be based upon the sentencing court's assessment of the
defendant's criminal history, substance abuse screening outcome,
amenability to the services of the program, total sentence



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11 points, the recommendation of the state attorney and the victim,
12 if any, and the defendant's agreement to enter the program. A
13 ~~defendant seeking to participate in a veterans treatment court~~
14 ~~program must submit an application to the state attorney. The~~
15 ~~state attorney must review each application and determine~~
16 ~~whether the defendant meets the eligibility requirements in~~
17 ~~subsection (8).~~

18 (8) ELIGIBILITY.—

19 (a) A defendant may participate in a veterans treatment
20 court program if he or she is approved by the multidisciplinary
21 ~~team state attorney, in consultation with the court,~~ and meets
22 the following criteria:

23 1. The defendant has a service-related mental health
24 condition, service-related traumatic brain injury, service-
25 related substance use disorder, or service-related psychological
26 problem or has experienced military sexual trauma.

27 2. The defendant's participation in the veterans treatment
28 court program is in the interest of justice and of benefit to
29 the defendant and the community.

30 (b) In making the determination under subparagraph (a)2.,
31 the multidisciplinary team ~~the state attorney, in consultation~~
32 ~~with the court,~~ must consider: