

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R19353 MCK-D

H.B. 2108
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Veteran Affairs & Military Installations
5/15/2015
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Interested parties contend that those who served in the United States military during the Cold War should be recognized for their extraordinary achievements. H.B. 2108 seeks to acknowledge the efforts made by Texas military veterans of the Cold War by awarding them an honor equal to the honors awarded to those who served in other international conflicts.

H.B. 2108 amends current law relating to a medal for certain members of the military forces who served during the Cold War.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the adjutant general is rescinded in SECTION 2 (Section 431.134, Government Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Reenacts Section 437.355, Government Code, to incorporate amendments made to Section 431.134, Government Code, by Chapter 243 (H.B. 402), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, and amends it, as follows:

Sec. 437.355. OTHER AWARDS. (a) Authorizes the governor of the State of Texas or adjutant general, if delegated the authority, to adopt policies and regulations relating to awarding:

(1)-(12) Makes no change to these subdivisions;

(13) and (14) Makes nonsubstantive changes; and

(15) the Cold War Medal, which, subject to Subsection (c), shall be awarded to a member of the military forces of this state or the United States, rather than to a member of the Texas National Guard or the Texas State Guard, who:

(A) served between September 2, 1945, and December 26, 1991, rather than served between September 2, 1945, and December 26, 1991, subject to Subsection (c); and

(B) was a resident of this state at the time the service member entered military service.

(b) Makes no change to this subsection.

(c) Authorizes a person described by Subsection (a)(15) to be awarded a Cold War Medal only if:

(1) a federal Cold War Medal or an equivalent federal medal is not available to be awarded; and

(2) a fee in the amount necessary to cover the costs of awarding the medal is paid to the adjutant general's department.

SECTION 2. Repealer: Section 431.134 (Other Awards), Government Code.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2015.