

House State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

04/27/2023 Upon Adjournment

SB23-261 Direct Care Workforce Stabilization Board

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Craig Wood For US Navy Seabees	I believe the Seabees License Plate should be adopted for the state. Seabees have played an important part during the last few wars. I am a Vietnam Purple Heart veteran, and I support this action.
Richard Meehan MD For themselves	<p>House Finance Committee Testimony statements of Richard Meehan 04.26.2023 .</p> <p>Introduction Good afternoon and thank you Senator Danielson for sponsorship of Colorado Senate Bill 23-212 and Committee members for your time and allowing me to address this committee . My name Richard Meehan, a Colorado physician since 1989, currently I am a Professor of Medicine at National Jewish Health and Co-chair of our Deployment lung Health Center (8 blocks down the road) and a retired “Dirt Navy” Medical Officer. I drilled at Buckley Navy and Marine Corps support Center for most of my 20 year Navy career that is the largest USN/USMC reserve support center in US between the coasts.</p> <p>Seabee Experience I had the privilege of serving with the Seabees during the Gulf War where they constructed a fully operational 500 bed Combat support Field hospital allowing us to begin receiving combat casualties within 10 days. Then in 2008, I deployed as the battalion surgeon with 542 US Navy Reserve Seabees of NMCB 17 out of Ft Carson, where they would routinely construct Combat outposts in the middle of the Iraq desert, essentially a fully functioning small city for US Marines.</p> <p>The Goal of having a Colorado Seabee License plate would be to educate, inspire and encourage young Coloradans to learn more about the proud legacy of the USN Construction Force formed during WWII and also consider serving in the military and pursuing a very productive and vital career in the building trades (builder, welder, utilities, electricians, engineering aide, heavy construction equipment operators and maintenance etc.). These are important skills, with good paying salaries, which cannot be outsourced and are vital to our growing Colorado economy, which desperately needs if we are to remain a global competitor in construction and advanced industries sectors. When a young man or</p>

	<p>women sees a Seabee licenses plate from one of the hundreds, or thousands of active duty, reserve or retired Coloradan Seabees, we hope they will heed the plea of WWII Navy Veteran and President John F Kennedy. "Ask not what your country can do for you but ask what you can do for your country". To serve our country in time of war is an honor and it would be a wonderful heritage if we all can encourage our young Coloradans to adopt the Seabee motto of "Can Do".</p> <p>Respectively submitted</p> <p>Richard Meehan MD</p>
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