

- SUBJECT:** Requiring occupational specialty codes on job opening notices
- COMMITTEE:** Defense and Veterans' Affairs — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 5 ayes — S. King, Aycock, Blanco, Farias, Shaheen
- 2 nays — Frank, Schaefer
- WITNESSES:** For — Jim Brennan, Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations;  
(*Registered, but did not testify:* Morgan Little and John A Miterko, Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations)
- Against — None
- On — Randy Nesbitt, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation;  
Stan Kurtz, Texas Veterans Commission
- BACKGROUND:** Under Government Code, sec. 654.036, the general duties of a classification officer include:
- maintaining and keeping current the position classification plan;
  - advising and assisting state agencies in equitably and uniformly applying the plan;
  - conducting classification compliance audits; and
  - making recommendations that the officer finds necessary for the operation of the plan or its improvement.
- The Texas Workforce Commission serves as a central processing agency for certain job openings and placements with the state to increase employment opportunities for veterans.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 1340 would establish certain requirements related to the identification and use of occupational specialty codes. The bill would define occupational specialty code as a code, classification, designator, or rating used by a branch of the U.S. armed forces to identify a specific job.

The term would include a military occupational specialty code, an air force specialty code, a navy enlisted classification system, or a similar coding or classification system.

The bill would require the classification officer, each state fiscal biennium, to research and identify applicable occupational specialty codes that corresponded to each position in the state's position classification plan. The officer would be required to report the findings to the governor's budget office and the Legislative Budget Board by October 1 preceding each regular session of the Legislature.

The classification officer could request the assistance of the Texas Veterans Commission, and the commission would be required to assist the officer in researching the codes and reporting the findings.

CSHB 1340 also would require that all forms and notices related to a state agency job opening include the occupational specialty codes that corresponded to the job opening if the duties of the available position correlated with an occupational specialty assigned to that code. The Texas Workforce Commission would have to include space on job information forms for an agency to list an occupational specialty code on the form.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015, and would apply only to a form or notice for a job opening that was published or delivered on or after that date.