Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Appropriations Committee
Representative Steube offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)
Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:
Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 322.08, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (9), and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:
322.08 Application for license; requirements for license and identification card forms.—
(8)(a) To support the carrying out of the duties of the Department of Veterans' Affairs prescribed in s. 292.05 and to facilitate outreach to veterans residing in this state, the application form for an original, renewal, or replacement driver license or identification card must include a voluntary checkoff authorizing a veteran of the United States Armed Forces to request written or electronic information on federal, state, and
local benefits and services available to veterans. The veteran may elect to receive requested information through United States mail or by e-mail. The requested information shall be delivered to the veteran by any third-party provider selected by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to act on its behalf.

(b) The department shall collaborate with the Department of Veterans' Affairs to administer this subsection. The department shall report monthly to the Department of Veterans' Affairs the name and mailing address or e-mail address of each veteran who requests information as provided in paragraph (a). Following receipt of the monthly report, the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall disseminate the contact information for each such veteran to the third-party provider acting on its behalf. The third-party provider must be a nonprofit organization with sufficient ability to communicate with veterans residing throughout this state. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "nonprofit organization" means an organization exempt from the federal income tax under s. 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any federal, state, or local governmental entity.

(c) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (b), the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall disseminate the contact information for a veteran who selects the voluntary checkoff to the appropriate county or city veteran service officer in order to facilitate further outreach to veterans.

(d)1. The contact information of a veteran that is
Amendment No. 1

obtained by a third-party provider pursuant to this subsection may be used only as authorized by this subsection. The third-party provider may not sell such contact information. Except as otherwise provided, the third-party provider must maintain the confidentiality of the contact information in accordance with chapter 119 and the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721 et seq.

2. A person who willfully and knowingly violates this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 322.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.21 License fees; procedure for handling and collecting fees.—

(7) Any veteran honorably discharged from the Armed Forces who has been issued a valid identification card by the Department of Veterans' Affairs in accordance with s. 295.17, has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a 100-percent total and permanent service-connected disability rating for compensation, or has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent, is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed Services, or any veteran honorably discharged from the Armed Forces who has served in combat and was disabled during
service, and who is qualified to obtain a driver license under this chapter is exempt from all fees required by this section.

Section 3. Military and Overseas Voting Assistance Task Force.—The Military and Overseas Voting Assistance Task Force, a task force as defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is created within the Department of State. The task force is created for the express purpose of studying issues involving the development and implementation of an online voting system that allows absent uniformed services voters to electronically submit voted ballots.

(1) The task force is composed of 20 members, as follows:
   (a) The Secretary of State or his or her designee, who shall serve as chair of the task force.
      (b) The Adjutant General or his or her designee.
      (c) The executive director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs or his or her designee.
      (d) The executive director of the Agency for State Technology or his or her designee.
      (e) One member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate.
      (f) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
      (g) One member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.
      (h) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.
Amendment No. 1

(i) One member appointed by the Governor.

(j) Six supervisors of elections appointed by the Secretary of State.

(k) Five individuals appointed by the Secretary of State, with relevant expertise in computers, the Internet, or other associated technologies.

(2) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

(3) The task force, at a minimum, shall study and report on the following issues:

(a) Any factor that limits the ability of absent uniformed services voters to request, receive, and return absentee ballots within the current statutory time period for casting absentee ballots.

(b) The costs associated with the development and implementation of an online voting system.

(c) The feasibility of absent uniformed services voters using an online voting system to electronically submit a voted ballot.

(d) The security of electronically submitting a voted ballot through an online voting system.

(e) Procedures adopted by other states to facilitate greater electoral participation among absent uniformed services voters.

(4) The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the
Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2016, containing the task force's recommendation concerning whether the state should pursue the development and implementation of an online voting system that allows absent uniformed services voters to electronically submit voted ballots. If the task force favorably recommends an online voting system, the report must include recommended steps for developing and implementing such a system. Upon submission of the report, the task force shall expire.

(5) The Division of Elections of the Department of State shall provide support staff for the task force. The Agency for State Technology shall assist the task force upon request.

Section 4. The Legislature finds that many veterans of the United States Armed Forces in this state have completed training and coursework during their military service, including overseas deployments, resulting in tangible and quantifiable strides in their pursuit of a postsecondary degree. The Legislature further finds that the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors of the State University System must work together to ensure that military training and coursework are granted academic credit in order to assist veterans in continuing their education. Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors work collaboratively to:

(1) Align existing degree programs, including, but not limited to, vocational and technical degrees, at each state
university and Florida College System institution with applicable military training and experience to maximize academic credit award for such training and experience.

(2) Appoint and train specific faculty within each degree program at each state university and Florida College System institution as liaisons and contacts for veterans.

(3) Incorporate outreach services tailored to disabled veterans into existing disability services on the campus of each state university and Florida College System institution to make available to such veterans information on disability services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, other federal and state agencies, and private entities.

(4) Facilitate statewide meetings for personnel at state universities and Florida College System institutions who provide student services for veterans to discuss and develop best practices, exchange ideas and experiences, and attend presentations by individuals with expertise in the unique needs of veterans.

(5) Make every effort to provide veterans with sufficient courses required for graduation, including, but not limited to, giving priority registration to veterans.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

T I T L E  A M E N D M E N T

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 1091 (2015)

Amendment No. 1

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to military affairs; amending s.
322.08, F.S.; amending s. 322.08, F.S.; requiring the
application form for an original, renewal, or
replacement driver license or identification card to
include a voluntary checkoff authorizing veterans to
request written or electronic information on federal,
state, and local benefits and services for veterans;
requiring that the requested information be delivered
by a nonprofit organization; directing the Department
of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to report veteran
contact information to the Department of Veterans'
Affairs; directing the Department of Veteran's Affairs
to disseminate veteran contact information to county
or city veteran service officers; prohibiting a third-
party provider from selling veteran contact
information; requiring a third-party provider to
maintain confidentiality of veteran contact
information under specified provisions; providing a
penalty; amending s. 322.21, F.S.; exempting certain
veterans from fees relating to driver licenses and
identification cards; creating the Military and
Overseas Voting Assistance Task Force within the
Department of State; specifying membership of the task
force; authorizing reimbursement for per diem and
travel expenses; prescribing duties of the task force;

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Published On: 3/19/2015 10:54:55 AM

Page 8 of 9
Amendment No. 1

requiring submission of a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; providing for expiration of the task force; providing for staffing; providing legislative findings regarding continuing education for veterans; providing legislative intent for the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors of the State University System to work collaboratively to align existing degree programs at state universities and Florida College System institutions, train faculty, incorporate outreach services into existing disability services, facilitate statewide meetings for personnel, and provide sufficient courses and priority registration to veterans; providing an effective date.