

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 139

Senate State Administration Committee

03/04/05

*Presented by:***ROGER A. HAGAN****Officer and Enlisted Associations of the Montana National Guard**

Madam Chair, members of the committee, for the record my name is Roger A. Hagan. I represent the more than 3,000 members of the Officer and Enlisted Associations of the Montana National Guard. It is my pleasure to rise in support of House Bill 139, an act adopting the most recent version of federal laws and regulations, forms, precedents, and usages, including the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). For the past several sessions this legislation was passed to update our State's UCMJ. Each time it was attested that an update would be required every two years.

As members of the United States Army and Air Force, during our basic training active duty tour, we are schooled on the requirements and responsibilities of members of the Armed Forces with respect to the UCMJ. It is reasonable, then, to assume that similar requirements and responsibilities are conferred upon us when we return to our home state as members of the Montana National Guard.

To continue to adopt the most current Federal UCMJ and other regulations as our governing document for the Montana Militia is the most reasonable and prudent course of action. This bill merely adopts the most current Federal UCMJ on the effective date of this act.

Our Associations urge your support of this legislation. Thank you for your favorable consideration of this bill.