1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)
4	ENGROSSED SENATE
5	BILL NO. 398 By: Pugh and Jett of the Senate
6	and
7	Duel of the House
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10	An Act relating to veterans' employment and training;
11	directing the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs to serve as principal assistance organization;
12	directing the establishment of certain workforce training; directing certain education of available
13	opportunities; directing training matches; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.
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16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
17	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 63.23 of Title 72, unless there
19	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
20	A. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall serve as
21	the state's principal assistance organization under the United
22	States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program for employers and
23	transitioning servicemembers.
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B. As the state's principal assistance organization under the
United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program for
qualified businesses in this state and for transitioning
servicemembers who reside in, or who wish to reside in, this state,
the Department shall:

Establish and maintain, as applicable, its certification for
the SkillBridge program or any other similar workforce training and
transition programs established by the United States Department of
Defense;

Educate businesses, business associations, and transitioning
servicemembers on the SkillBridge program and its benefits, and
educate military command and personnel within the state on
opportunities available to transitioning servicemembers through the
SkillBridge program;

Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled
workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge program,
including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, internships, or
fellowships; and

Match transitioning servicemembers who are deemed eligible
for SkillBridge participation by their military command with
training opportunities offered by the corporation or participating
businesses, with the intent of having transitioning servicemembers
achieve gainful employment in this state upon completion of their
SkillBridge training.

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1	SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.
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3	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS, dated 04/04/2023 - DO PASS.
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