

Senate Bill 76

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd, Harbison of the 15th, Jones of the 10th, Lucas of the 26th and Sims of the 12th

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to veterans' benefits, so as to create the Returning Veterans Task Force; to provide  
3 for membership; to provide for duties; to provide for recommendations; to repeal conflicting  
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 veterans' benefits, is amended by adding a new part to read as follows:

9 "Part 4

10 38-4-90.

11 There is created within the Department of Veterans Service the Returning Veterans Task  
12 Force.

13 38-4-91.

14 The Returning Veterans Task Force shall consist of one representative each from the  
15 Department of Veterans Service appointed by the commissioner of veterans service, the  
16 Department of Community Health appointed by the commissioner of community health,  
17 the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities appointed by the  
18 commissioner of behavioral health and developmental disabilities, the Department of Labor  
19 appointed by the Commissioner of Labor, the Department of Defense appointed by the  
20 adjutant general, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia appointed by  
21 the chancellor of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and the  
22 Technical College System of Georgia appointed by the commissioner of the Technical  
23 College System of Georgia. Other agencies may be invited to participate in the task force

24 based on needs identified over time. The member appointed by the commissioner of  
25 veterans service shall serve as chairperson of the task force.

26 38-4-92.

27 The task force shall meet at least quarterly and shall investigate how state services can be  
28 provided to veterans returning from military service from which the veteran was discharged  
29 under conditions other than dishonorable within the most recent three years in order to  
30 assist them in integrating into society. The task force shall issue recommendations to each  
31 relevant state agency regarding improving the delivery of services to returning veterans.  
32 On or before November 1 of each year, the task force shall transmit specific suggestions  
33 for legislation designed to assist returning veterans to the Speaker of the House of  
34 Representatives, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Governor."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.