

# HOUSE BILL No. 1117

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 10-17-14.

**Synopsis:** Hoosier women veterans program. Establishes the Hoosier women veterans program to provide information and services to Indiana's women veterans. Establishes the Hoosier women veterans program fund.

**Effective:** July 1, 2014.

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January 9, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.

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Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2013 Regular Session and 2013 First Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1117

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning military and veterans and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 10-17-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2014]:  
4 **Chapter 14. Hoosier Women Veterans Program**  
5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "coordinator" refers to the**  
6 **Hoosier women veterans coordinator designated under section 7 of**  
7 **this chapter.**  
8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the**  
9 **Indiana department of veterans' affairs established by**  
10 **IC 10-17-1-2.**  
11 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "director" refers to the director**  
12 **of veterans' affairs.**  
13 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the Hoosier**  
14 **women veterans program established by section 6 of this chapter.**  
15 **Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "women veterans" means women**  
16 **who:**



- 1 (1) served in the armed forces of the United States; and  
 2 (2) were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

3 **Sec. 6. The Hoosier women veterans program is established**  
 4 **within the department.**

5 **Sec. 7. The director shall designate a coordinator who shall be**  
 6 **responsible for the administration of the program under the**  
 7 **direction and supervision of the director.**

8 **Sec. 8. The program shall have the following purposes and**  
 9 **duties:**

10 (1) Perform outreach to improve women veterans' awareness  
 11 of eligibility for federal and state veterans' services and  
 12 benefits.

13 (2) Assess the needs of women veterans with respect to  
 14 benefits and services.

15 (3) Review programs, research projects, and other initiatives  
 16 designed to address or meet the needs of Indiana's women  
 17 veterans.

18 (4) Make recommendations to the director to improve benefits  
 19 and services for women veterans.

20 (5) Incorporate women veterans' issues in strategic planning  
 21 concerning benefits and services.

22 **Sec. 9. The program's principal functions are as follows:**

23 (1) To advocate:

24 (A) for women veterans and work to increase public  
 25 awareness about the gender specific needs of women  
 26 veterans; and

27 (B) for legislation and policies on the local, state, and  
 28 national levels to address women veterans issues;

29 (2) To collaborate with federal, state, and private entities that  
 30 provide services to women veterans.

31 (3) To monitor and research issues relating to women  
 32 veterans and disseminate information and opportunities  
 33 throughout its network.

34 (4) To educate, provide guidance, and direction to women  
 35 veterans who apply for:

36 (A) grants;

37 (B) benefits; or

38 (C) services;

39 through conferences, seminars, and training workshops with  
 40 federal, state, and private entities.

41 (5) To recognize, promote, and honor women veterans  
 42 through organized activities and events.



- 1           **(6) To provide resources to support the program through**  
2           **grants and other sources of funding.**
- 3           **Sec. 10. (a) The Hoosier women veterans program fund is**  
4           **established to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The**  
5           **department shall administer the fund.**
- 6           **(b) The fund consists of appropriations from the general**  
7           **assembly and gifts and grants to the fund.**
- 8           **(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**  
9           **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**  
10           **manner as other public funds may be invested.**
- 11           **(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**  
12           **revert to the state general fund. However, if the fund is abolished,**  
13           **the money in the fund reverts to the state general fund.**
- 14           **(e) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the**  
15           **purposes of this chapter.**
- 16           **Sec. 11. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**  
17           **implement this chapter.**

