

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.

## SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 354

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AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning military and veterans.

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

SECTION 1. IC 10-17-1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.144-2007, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 9. (a) A county executive:

(1) shall designate and may:

(A) **appoint a county service officer for a four (4) year term; or**

(B) employ a county service officer; and

(2) may employ service officer assistants;

to serve the veterans of the county.

(b) The fiscal body of a city may provide for the employment by the mayor of a city service officer and service officer assistants to serve the veterans of the city.

(c) If the remuneration and expenses of a county or city service officer are paid from the funds of the county or city employing the service officer, the service officer shall:

(1) have the same qualifications and be subject to the same rules as the director, assistant director, and state service officers of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs; and

(2) serve under the supervision of the director of veterans' affairs.

A service officer assistant must have the same qualifications as an employee described in section 11(b) of this chapter. A rule contrary to

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this subsection is void.

(d) County and city fiscal bodies may appropriate funds necessary for the purposes described in this section.

SECTION 2. IC 10-17-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]:

**Chapter 14. Hoosier Women Veterans Program**

**Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "coordinator" refers to the Hoosier women veterans coordinator designated under section 7 of this chapter.

**Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the Indiana department of veterans' affairs established by IC 10-17-1-2.

**Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "director" refers to the director of veterans' affairs.

**Sec. 4.** As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the Hoosier women veterans program established by section 6 of this chapter.

**Sec. 5.** As used in this chapter, "women veterans" means women who:

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

**Sec. 6.** The Hoosier women veterans program is established within the department. The program must be funded using the available resources of the department.

**Sec. 7.** The director may designate a coordinator who is responsible for the administration of the program under the direction and supervision of the director.

**Sec. 8.** The program has the following purposes and duties:

- (1) Perform outreach to improve women veterans' awareness of eligibility for federal and state veterans' services and benefits.
- (2) Assess the needs of women veterans with respect to benefits and services.
- (3) Review programs, research projects, and other initiatives designed to address or meet the needs of Indiana's women veterans.
- (4) Make recommendations to the director to improve benefits and services for women veterans.
- (5) Incorporate women veterans' issues in strategic planning concerning benefits and services.

**Sec. 9.** The department may set the salary of the coordinator using only the available resources of the department.



**Sec. 10. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.**



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President of the Senate

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President Pro Tempore

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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