



2023 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1051

Introduced by: **Representative Teunissen**

1 **An Act to require counties to hire veteran service officers in proportion to the**
 2 **number of veterans residing in the county.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That § 33A-1-22 be AMENDED:**

5 **33A-1-22.** The board of county commissioners of each county in this state shall
 6 employ or join with another county or counties in employing a county veterans' service
 7 officer who, before such employment takes effect, is approved by the state secretary of
 8 veterans affairs. The county ~~veteran's~~ veterans' service officer's first appointment ends
 9 on the first Monday in January of the second year subsequent to the year of the
 10 appointment. The county veteran's service officer may be reappointed for ~~terms~~ any
 11 number of four years for each term. The appointment is subject to removal by the board
 12 or boards of county commissioners upon the recommendation of the state secretary of
 13 veterans' veterans affairs or for cause.

14 The board of county commissioners in a county with a resident veteran population
 15 greater than one thousand and less than four thousand as determined by the United States
 16 Department of Veterans Affairs, shall employ a minimum of one full-time dedicated county
 17 veterans' service officer.

18 The board of county commissioners in a county with one thousand or fewer resident
 19 veterans, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, shall employ
 20 a minimum of one part-time dedicated county veterans' service officer, but may employ
 21 a full-time dedicated county veterans' service officer for the county or join with another
 22 county or with other counties to employ a full-time dedicated county veterans' service
 23 officer. The total combined population of resident veterans in the counties joining together
 24 to employ a county veterans' service officer shall determine the minimum number of full-
 25 time dedicated county veterans' service officers employed by the counties.

1 The board of county commissioners in a county with a resident veteran population
2 of four thousand or more resident veterans, as determined by the United States
3 Department of Veterans Affairs, shall employ a minimum of two full-time dedicated county
4 veterans' service officers, and shall employ an additional full-time dedicated veterans'
5 service officer for every additional four thousand veterans residing in the county.
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