

Senate File 2466

1 Amend Senate File 2466, as passed by the Senate, as follows:

2 1. By striking everything after the enacting clause and
3 inserting:

4 <Section 1. NEW SECTION. 35.4 Power of attorney.

5 The provisions of this chapter and chapters 35A, 35B,
6 35C, and 35D do not limit the ability of a veterans' service
7 organization recognized pursuant to 38 C.F.R. §14.628(c) to
8 represent a veteran in the United States department of veterans
9 affairs benefit claims process or to be granted the power of
10 attorney for a veteran with the United States department of
11 veterans affairs. A veteran may grant a veterans' service
12 organization that is recognized pursuant to 38 C.F.R.
13 §14.628(c) power of attorney for the purposes of filing claims
14 with the United States department of veterans affairs.

15 Sec. 2. Section 35A.5, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
16 following new subsections:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 16A. Establish and maintain a statewide
18 standardized electronic claim system to be used by county
19 veterans service offices for submission of all United States
20 department of veterans affairs claims.

21 NEW SUBSECTION. 16B. Communicate county veterans service
22 office performance metrics to county commissions of veteran
23 affairs and boards of supervisors through quarterly and annual
24 reports.

25 Sec. 3. Section 35A.13, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
26 2026, is amended to read as follows:

27 c. Interest attributable to investment of moneys in the
28 fund or an account of the trust fund. Notwithstanding section
29 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the
30 trust fund shall be credited to the trust fund. For the fiscal
31 year beginning July 1, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter,
32 thirty-three percent of the interest collected in that fiscal
33 year is appropriated to the commission to be used for the
34 purposes set forth in subsection 13, and thirty-three percent
35 of the interest collected in that fiscal year is appropriated

1 to the department to allocate to each county commission of
2 veteran affairs or to each county sharing the services of an
3 executive director or administrator pursuant to chapter 28E
4 for veterans service officer salaries and paying benefits
5 to veterans, based on the number of veterans in each county
6 according to the most current data from the United States
7 department of veterans affairs on July 1 of that fiscal year.
8 A county shall not receive moneys under this paragraph if the
9 annual report under section 35A.5 demonstrates that the county
10 has not met the standards established by the department.

11 Sec. 4. Section 35A.13, subsection 5, Code 2026, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 5. *a.* ~~For each the fiscal year that the balance of the~~
14 ~~trust fund on July 1 is below fifty million dollars beginning~~
15 July 1, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the remaining
16 interest and earnings on moneys in the fund and the first five
17 hundred thousand one million dollars transferred pursuant to
18 section 99G.39 from the lottery fund are appropriated to the
19 commission to be used to achieve the purposes of subsection 8.
20 ~~Moneys appropriated to the commission under this paragraph that~~
21 ~~remain unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal~~
22 ~~year shall revert to the fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33,~~
23 fifty percent of the moneys appropriated to the commission
24 under this paragraph that remain unencumbered or unobligated
25 at the close of a fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain
26 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until the
27 close of the succeeding fiscal year. However, nine hundred
28 ninety thousand dollars of the amount transferred pursuant to
29 section 99G.39 from the lottery fund is appropriated to the
30 department to allocate to each county commission of veteran
31 affairs or to each county sharing the services of an executive
32 director or administrator pursuant to chapter 28E for veterans
33 service officer salaries.

34 ~~*b.* For each fiscal year that the balance of the trust fund~~
35 ~~on July 1 is above fifty million dollars but the balance of the~~

1 ~~fund was below fifty million dollars on July 1 of the previous~~
2 ~~fiscal year, moneys transferred pursuant to section 99G.39 from~~
3 ~~the lottery fund are appropriated to the commission to be used~~
4 ~~to achieve the purposes of subsection 8. Moneys appropriated~~
5 ~~to the commission under this paragraph that remain unencumbered~~
6 ~~or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall revert to~~
7 ~~the fund.~~

8 ~~c. For each fiscal year that the balance of the trust fund~~
9 ~~on July 1 is above fifty million dollars and the balance of~~
10 ~~the fund was above fifty million dollars on July 1 of the~~
11 ~~previous fiscal year, moneys equal to the net income the fund~~
12 ~~received in the previous fiscal year are appropriated to the~~
13 ~~commission to be used to achieve the purposes of subsection~~
14 ~~8. Moneys appropriated to the commission under this paragraph~~
15 ~~that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the~~
16 ~~fiscal year shall revert to the fund. For the purposes of this~~
17 ~~paragraph, "income" means moneys credited to the veterans trust~~
18 ~~fund pursuant to subsection 2 and moneys transferred pursuant~~
19 ~~to section 99G.39.~~

20 ~~d. b.~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs paragraph "a", "b", and
21 "c", moneys credited to the war orphans educational assistance
22 account shall be expended as provided in subsection 9.

23 ~~e. c.~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs paragraph "a", "b",
24 and "c", moneys transferred under subsection 6 to the county
25 commission of veteran affairs training program account shall be
26 expended as provided in section 35A.16.

27 Sec. 5. Section 35B.6, subsection 1, paragraph d, Code 2026,
28 is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

29 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) Utilize the statewide standardized
30 electronic claim system authorized and provided by the
31 department of veterans affairs to file all claims for United
32 States department of veterans affairs benefits.

33 Sec. 6. Section 35B.6, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
34 following new subsection:

35 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Each county commission of veteran

1 affairs shall employ at least one veterans service officer
2 to work for forty hours per week. Two adjacent counties may
3 share the services of a veterans service officer pursuant to a
4 chapter 28E agreement if the veterans service officer works a
5 minimum of sixteen hours per week in each county.

6 Sec. 7. Section 35B.7, Code 2026, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 **35B.7 Meetings — report — budget.**

9 The commission shall meet monthly and at other times as
10 necessary. At the monthly meeting, the commission shall
11 determine who are is entitled to county benefits and the
12 probable amount required to be expended. The commission shall
13 also review quarterly performance reports generated by the
14 department of veterans affairs to assess the effectiveness
15 of delivery of federal benefits and shall publish the annual
16 performance report generated by the department of veterans
17 affairs. The commission shall meet annually to prepare an
18 estimated budget for all expenditures to be made in the next
19 fiscal year and certify the budget to the board of supervisors.
20 The board may approve or reduce the budget for valid reasons
21 shown and entered of record and the board's decision is final.

22 Sec. 8. Section 99G.39, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 3. Two million five hundred thousand dollars in lottery
25 revenues shall be transferred each fiscal year to the veterans
26 trust fund established pursuant to section 35A.13 prior to
27 deposit of the lottery revenues in the general fund pursuant
28 to section 99G.40. ~~However, if the balance of the veterans~~
29 ~~trust fund is fifty million dollars or more, the moneys shall~~
30 ~~be appropriated to the department for distribution to county~~
31 ~~directors of veteran affairs, with fifty percent of the moneys~~
32 ~~to be distributed equally to each county and fifty percent of~~
33 ~~the moneys to be distributed to each county based upon the~~
34 ~~population of veterans in the county, so long as the moneys~~
35 ~~distributed to a county do not supplant moneys appropriated by~~

1 ~~that county for the county director of veteran affairs.~~

2 Sec. 9. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS —

3 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general
4 fund of the state to the department of veterans affairs for the
5 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027,
6 the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be
7 used for the purposes designated:

8 For implementing section 35A.5, subsections 16A and 16B, as
9 enacted by this Act:

10 \$ \$300,000>

PROPOSED COMMITTEE AMENDMENT