

Senate File 2466

H-8341

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, subsection 9, Code 2026, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 9. Verify each executive director and administrator of a
18 county commission of veteran affairs ~~is fully qualified to work~~
19 ~~in the person's position. Qualifications include but are not~~
20 ~~limited to~~ has all of the following credentials:

21 a. The person has obtained certification that is federally
22 required for the executive director's or administrator's
23 position within twelve months of beginning the person's
24 employment.

25 b. The person has obtained a personal identification
26 verification card necessary to access the veterans benefits
27 management system within twelve months of beginning the
28 person's employment.

29 c. The person maintains certification that is federally
30 required for the executive director's or administrator's
31 position.

32 d. The person maintains an active personal identification
33 verification card and has access to the veterans benefits
34 management system.

35 e. The person is ~~proficient in the use of electronic~~

1 ~~mail, general computer use, and use of the internet to access~~
2 ~~information regarding facilities, benefits, and services~~
3 ~~available to veterans and their families in compliance with~~
4 ~~education and training standards established by the commandant.~~

5 Sec. 3. Section 35A.5, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
6 following new subsections:

7 NEW SUBSECTION. 16A. Establish and maintain a statewide
8 standardized electronic claim system to be used by county
9 veterans service offices for submission of all United States
10 department of veterans affairs claims.

11 NEW SUBSECTION. 16B. Communicate county veterans service
12 office performance metrics to county commissions of veteran
13 affairs and boards of supervisors through quarterly and annual
14 reports.

15 Sec. 4. Section 35A.13, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
16 2026, is amended to read as follows:

17 c. Interest attributable to investment of moneys in the
18 fund or an account of the trust fund. Notwithstanding section
19 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the
20 trust fund shall be credited to the trust fund. For the fiscal
21 year beginning July 1, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter,
22 thirty-three percent of the interest collected in that fiscal
23 year is appropriated to the commission to be used for the
24 purposes set forth in subsection 8, and thirty-three percent
25 of the interest collected in that fiscal year is appropriated
26 to the department to allocate to each county commission of
27 veteran affairs or to each county sharing the services of an
28 executive director or administrator pursuant to chapter 28E for
29 veterans service officer salaries and training, based on the
30 number of veterans in each county according to the most current
31 data from the United States department of veterans affairs on
32 July 1 of that fiscal year. If the annual report under section
33 35A.5 demonstrates that a county has not met the standards
34 established by the department, the moneys that the county would
35 have received shall remain in the trust fund. Notwithstanding

1 section 8.33, moneys appropriated to the commission under this
2 paragraph that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close
3 of a fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available
4 for expenditure for the purposes designated.

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

7 5. ~~a. For each the fiscal year that the balance of the~~
8 ~~trust fund on July 1 is below fifty million dollars beginning~~
9 ~~July 1, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the remaining~~
10 ~~interest and earnings on moneys in the fund and the first five~~
11 ~~hundred thousand one million dollars transferred pursuant to~~
12 ~~section 99G.39 from the lottery fund are appropriated to the~~
13 ~~commission to be used to achieve the purposes of subsection 8.~~
14 ~~Moneys appropriated to the commission under this paragraph that~~
15 ~~remain unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal~~
16 ~~year shall revert to the fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33,~~
17 any moneys appropriated to the commission under this paragraph
18 that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close of a
19 fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available for
20 expenditure for the purposes designated. However, nine hundred
21 ninety thousand dollars of the amount transferred pursuant to
22 section 99G.39 from the lottery fund is appropriated to the
23 department to allocate to each county commission of veteran
24 affairs or to each county sharing the services of an executive
25 director or administrator pursuant to chapter 28E for veterans
26 service officer salaries. In addition, sixty thousand dollars
27 of the amount transferred pursuant to section 99G.39 is
28 appropriated to the department for one full-time equivalent
29 position to administer the statewide standardized electronic
30 claim system created pursuant to section 35A.5, subsection 16A.

31 ~~b. For each fiscal year that the balance of the trust fund~~
32 ~~on July 1 is above fifty million dollars but the balance of the~~
33 ~~fund was below fifty million dollars on July 1 of the previous~~
34 ~~fiscal year, moneys transferred pursuant to section 99G.39 from~~
35 ~~the lottery fund are appropriated to the commission to be used~~

1 to achieve the purposes of [subsection 8](#). Moneys appropriated
2 to the commission under this paragraph that remain unencumbered
3 or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall revert to
4 the fund.

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

17 ~~d.~~ b. Notwithstanding paragraphs paragraph "a", "b", and
18 "c", moneys credited to the war orphans educational assistance
19 account shall be expended as provided in [subsection 9](#).

20 ~~e.~~ c. Notwithstanding paragraphs paragraph "a", "b",
21 and "c", moneys transferred under [subsection 6](#) to the county
22 commission of veteran affairs training program account shall be
23 expended as provided in [section 35A.16](#).

24 Sec. 6. Section 35A.16, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
25 2026, is amended to read as follows:

26 a. If sufficient moneys are available, the department
27 shall annually allocate ten thousand dollars to each county
28 commission of veteran affairs, or to each county sharing the
29 services of an executive director or administrator pursuant
30 to [chapter 28E](#), to be used to provide services to veterans
31 pursuant to [section 35B.6](#) and provide for and maintain
32 accreditation in accordance with the policies and procedures of
33 the United States department of veterans affairs. Each county
34 receiving an allocation shall annually report on expenditure
35 of the allocation in on a form agreed to provided by the

1 department ~~and county representatives.~~

2 Sec. 7. Section 35B.6, subsection 1, paragraph d, Code 2026,
3 is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

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

8 Sec. 8. Section 35B.6, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
9 following new subsection:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Each county commission of veteran
11 affairs shall employ at least one veterans service officer
12 to work for forty hours per week. Two adjacent counties may
13 share the services of a veterans service officer pursuant to a
14 chapter 28E agreement. A veterans service officer shall spend
15 a minimum of sixteen hours per week physically present in each
16 county in which the veterans service officer is employed for
17 the purpose of providing veterans services.

18 Sec. 9. Section 35B.7, Code 2026, is amended to read as
19 follows:

20 **35B.7 Meetings — report — budget.**

21 The commission shall meet monthly and at other times as
22 necessary. At the monthly meeting, the commission shall
23 determine who are is entitled to county benefits and the
24 probable amount required to be expended. The commission shall
25 also review quarterly performance reports generated by the
26 department of veterans affairs to assess the effectiveness
27 of delivery of federal benefits and shall publish the annual
28 performance report generated by the department of veterans
29 affairs. The commission shall meet annually to prepare an
30 estimated budget for all expenditures to be made in the next
31 fiscal year and certify the budget to the board of supervisors.
32 The board may approve or reduce the budget for valid reasons
33 shown and entered of record and the board's decision is final.

34 Sec. 10. Section 99G.39, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended
35 to read as follows:

1 3. Two million five hundred thousand dollars in lottery
2 revenues shall be transferred each fiscal year to the veterans
3 trust fund established pursuant to [section 35A.13](#) prior to
4 deposit of the lottery revenues in the general fund pursuant
5 to [section 99G.40](#). ~~However, if the balance of the veterans~~
6 ~~trust fund is fifty million dollars or more, the moneys shall~~
7 ~~be appropriated to the department for distribution to county~~
8 ~~directors of veteran affairs, with fifty percent of the moneys~~
9 ~~to be distributed equally to each county and fifty percent of~~
10 ~~the moneys to be distributed to each county based upon the~~
11 ~~population of veterans in the county, so long as the moneys~~
12 ~~distributed to a county do not supplant moneys appropriated by~~
13 ~~that county for the county director of veteran affairs.~~

14 Sec. 11. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS —
15 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the veterans trust
16 fund created in section 35A.13 to the department of veterans
17 affairs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending
18 June 30, 2027, the following amount, or so much thereof as is
19 necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

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

22 \$ 300,000>

RINKER of Des Moines