



THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

May 8, 2006

The Honorable Chester Culver
Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
LOCAL


Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

House File 2363, an Act relating to the process utilized in assessing residents of health care facilities for veterans program benefits.

The above House File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Vilsack
Governor

TJV:jmc

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House





HOUSE FILE 2363

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PROCESS UTILIZED IN ASSESSING RESIDENTS OF
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES FOR VETERANS PROGRAM BENEFITS.

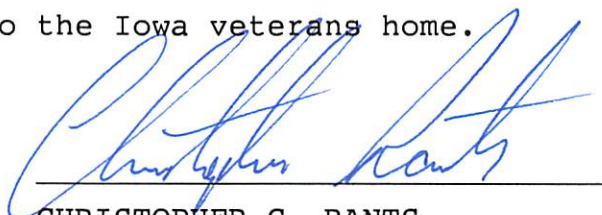
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 135C.31A, Code Supplement 2005, is amended to read as follows:

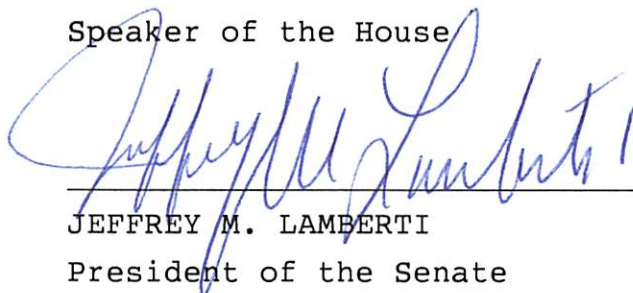
135C.31A ASSESSMENT OF RESIDENTS -- PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.

~~Beginning July 17, 2003, a~~ A health care facility receiving reimbursement through the medical assistance program under chapter 249A shall assist the Iowa department of veterans affairs in identifying, upon admission of a resident, the resident's eligibility for benefits through the ~~federal~~ United States department of veterans affairs. ~~The health care facility shall also assist the Iowa department of veterans affairs in determining such eligibility for residents residing in the facility on July 17, 2003.~~ The department of inspections and appeals, in cooperation with the department of human services, shall adopt rules to administer this section, including a provision that ensures that if a resident is eligible for benefits through the ~~federal~~ United States department of veterans affairs or other third-party payor, the payor of last resort for reimbursement to the health care facility is the medical assistance program. The rules shall also require the health care facility to request information from a resident or resident's personal representative regarding the resident's veteran status and to report to the Iowa department of veterans affairs only the names of residents identified as potential veterans along with the names of their spouses and any dependents. Information

reported by the health care facility shall be verified by the Iowa department of veterans affairs. This section shall not apply to the admission of an individual to a state mental health institute for acute psychiatric care or to the admission of an individual to the Iowa veterans home.



CHRISTOPHER C. RANTS
Speaker of the House



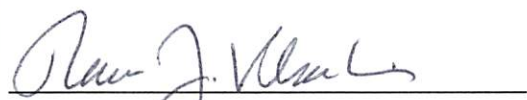
JEFFREY M. LAMBERTI
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 2363, Eighty-first General Assembly.



MARGARET THOMSON
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved May 8, 2006



THOMAS J. VILSACK
Governor