

3/3/97 State Gov.

FILED MAR 3 - 1997

SENATE FILE 260

BY BLACK of Jasper

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an office of veterans advocate.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 260

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 13.32 VETERANS ADVOCATE.

2 The attorney general shall appoint an attorney to the
3 office of veterans advocate. The veterans advocate is to be
4 housed in the office of the attorney general. The advocate
5 shall be an honorably discharged member of the armed forces of
6 the United States. The advocate's term of office is for four
7 years. The term begins and ends in the same manner as set
8 forth in section 69.19.

9 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 13.33 DUTIES OF VETERANS ADVOCATE.

10 The veterans advocate shall do all of the following:

11 1. Assist the commission of veterans affairs created in
12 section 35A.2 in the carrying out of its duties.

13 2. Assist the veterans of the state in obtaining the
14 benefits to which they are entitled.

15 3. Assist the veterans of the state in gaining admission
16 to the Iowa veterans home in a timely manner.

17 4. Provide assistance to the county commissions of
18 veterans affairs created in chapter 35B in the carrying out of
19 their duties.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill establishes an office of veterans advocate housed
22 within the office of attorney general. The attorney general
23 is required to appoint an attorney to the office for a four-
24 year term and the attorney is required to be an honorably
25 discharged member of the armed forces. The bill provides that
26 the duties of the advocate are to assist the veterans affairs
27 commission, county commissions of veterans affairs, and
28 veterans.

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