

JAN 26 2000

STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE

2074

BY NELSON-FORBES

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the powers and duties of the adjutant general
 2 by providing uniformed honor guards at burial, interment, or
 3 memorial services of military veterans.

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

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HF 2074

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 29A.12A UNIFORMED HONOR GUARD --
2 FUNERALS OF VETERANS.

3 1. As used in this section, "recognized veterans'
4 organization" means a veterans organization listed in section
5 37.2, subsection 1, or an organization of veterans of the
6 United States armed forces recognized by rule of the adjutant
7 general.

8 2. The adjutant general shall serve as coordinator for the
9 honor guard services for military funerals and related
10 services. When requested by the commander of a recognized
11 veterans' organization, the director of a funeral home, or by
12 a friend or family member of a deceased person who served in
13 the armed forces of the United States during a time of war or
14 military conflict or is otherwise entitled to military honors
15 at the person's burial, internment, or memorial service, the
16 adjutant general shall order the requested uniformed honor
17 guard of the Iowa national guard, or shall request a
18 recognized veteran's organization, to attend and render the
19 appropriate military honors. The adjutant general shall
20 ensure that the appropriate service records are collected
21 which authorize the honor guard at the services and shall
22 ensure that the honor guard meets the appropriate military
23 requirements for uniform and conduct.

24 3. If a recognized veterans' organization renders the
25 honor guard services, the adjutant general shall provide
26 assistance in training the honor guard units and shall provide
27 compensation to the recognized veterans' organization which
28 performs honor guard services. The compensation paid to the
29 recognized veterans' organization shall be determined by rule
30 of the adjutant general.

31 4. The costs related to providing honor guard services,
32 training honor guard units and providing compensation to
33 recognized veterans' organizations which render honor guard
34 services as provided in this section shall be paid from funds
35 appropriated to the national guard for those purposes under

1 section 29A.13.

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EXPLANATION

3 This bill provides that the adjutant general of the Iowa
4 national guard shall coordinate and provide for appropriate
5 honor guard services for deceased veterans who are entitled to
6 military honors at the veterans' funeral, burial, or memorial
7 service. The adjutant general is to provide the honor guard
8 units from national guard personnel or through recognized
9 veterans' organizations who wish to provide the honor guard
10 services. The adjutant general shall ensure that the honor
11 guards meet appropriate military standards of uniform and
12 conduct and shall provide appropriate training to the
13 veterans' organizations. The veterans' organizations are to
14 be compensated for the honor guard services as determined by
15 the adjutant general. The costs related to the honor guard
16 services are to be paid from funds appropriated to the
17 national guard for those purposes.

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HOUSE FILE 2074
FISCAL NOTE

A fiscal note for House File 2074 is hereby submitted pursuant to Joint Rule 17. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

House File 2074 requires the Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard to provide honor guard services for deceased veterans entitled to military honors at veterans' funeral, burial, or memorial service. The Adjutant General is to ensure proper military standards are met and provide appropriate training to veterans' organizations that provide honor guards. The costs of the honor guard services are to be paid by the National Guard from appropriated funds.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The Army and Air National Guard currently spend \$60,000 to \$150,000 annually in federal funds to provide honor guards at funerals.
2. The federal Department of Defense has distributed information to funeral homes informing funeral directors that veterans are eligible for honor guards. Demand for National Guard honor guards is expected to triple in federal fiscal year 2000 due to the notification.
3. In FY 2001, approximately 5,200 veterans will die. In FY 2002, approximately 5,700 veterans will die. The maximum cost will be estimated by assuming all will request military honor guards.
4. Recognized veterans organizations will supply 85.0% of the honor guards. The Army, Navy, and Marine Reserves will provide 1.0% of the honor guards. The National Guard will provide 14% of the honor guards.
5. Each honor guard will consist of 3 to 17 people.
6. Veterans organizations will be reimbursed \$50 per person with a maximum \$150 reimbursement. Veterans organizations currently provide these services for free.
7. The National Guard will create an eight-member full-time team to provide coordination, training to veterans organizations, and perform honor guard services at funerals. The team will consist of one officer, one senior non-commissioned officer, and six enlisted men.
8. Each honor guard provided by the National Guard will contain three Honor Guard team members and two traditional Guard members.
9. On average, each honor guard will consist of five members for each funeral.
10. Veterans organizations will provide the proper uniform for their members.
11. Veterans organizations will send their personnel to Camp Dodge for training.
12. Transportation costs will be \$25 per funeral, and meals will cost \$6 per honor guard member.
13. These costs will be paid from the operations budget of the Military Division, Department of Public Defense.

FISCAL IMPACT

The maximum estimated General Fund impact of House File 2074, to the provide funeral honor guards, would be a cost of \$1.3 million in FY 2001 and \$1.4 million in FY 2002.

SOURCE

Department of Public Defense

(LSB 5582hh, MDF)

FILED FEBRUARY 15, 2000

BY DENNIS PROUTY, FISCAL DIRECTOR