

**House Study Bill 243 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS AFFAIRS BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON BODEN)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act providing for the establishment of a veterans service  
2 organization grant program, and making appropriations.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **35A.23 Veterans service**  
2 **organization grant program.**

3 1. A veterans service organization grant program is  
4 established under the administration and control of the  
5 department to award grants to veterans service organizations for  
6 the purpose of ensuring adequate staff are employed to assist  
7 veterans with claims.

8 2. A veterans service organization grant fund is created  
9 within the state treasury under the control of the department.  
10 The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated to the fund by  
11 the general assembly and any other moneys available to and  
12 obtained or accepted by the department for deposit in the fund.  
13 All moneys in the fund are appropriated to the department for  
14 purposes of administering the program and providing grants under  
15 the program. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys in the fund  
16 that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close of a fiscal  
17 year shall not revert but shall remain available for expenditure  
18 for the purposes designated. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,  
19 subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall  
20 be credited to the fund.

21 3. a. In administering the program, the department shall  
22 award matching funds to veterans service organizations for the  
23 purpose of employing staff to assist veterans with claims.

24 b. To receive a grant, a veterans service organization shall  
25 demonstrate that moneys have been budgeted and will be expended  
26 by the veterans service organization in the amount required to  
27 provide matching funds for each staff position for which grant  
28 moneys are sought.

29 c. For purposes of this section, "veterans service  
30 organization" means an organization recognized pursuant to 38  
31 C.F.R. §14.628(c).

32 4. The department shall adopt, as necessary, application  
33 procedures, forms, administrative guidelines, and other rules  
34 pursuant to chapter 17A for purposes of implementing and  
35 administering the program.

