

**Senate File 276 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 276  
BY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1048)

(COMPANION TO HF 250 BY COMMITTEE  
ON VETERANS AFFAIRS)

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to county commissions of veteran affairs.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 35A.5, subsection 14, paragraph c, Code  
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. The number of hours of veterans' services provided by  
4 each county commission of veteran affairs executive director or  
5 administrator during the previous ~~calendar~~ fiscal year.

6 Sec. 2. Section 35B.6, subsection 1, paragraph c,  
7 subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code 2025, are amended by striking the  
8 subparagraphs and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

9 (1) (a) Upon the employment of an executive director or  
10 administrator, the executive director or administrator shall  
11 comply with all directives of the commandant of the Iowa  
12 department of veterans affairs regarding the completion of any  
13 training or certification required for the person's position  
14 under applicable state and federal law. The executive director  
15 or administrator shall also obtain a personal identification  
16 verification card necessary to access the veterans benefits  
17 management system. An executive director or administrator shall  
18 be removed from office if, after one year of employment, the  
19 executive director or administrator has not done all of the  
20 following:

21 (i) Obtained certification.

22 (ii) Obtained a personal identification verification card.

23 (iii) Completed training directed by the commandant of the  
24 Iowa department of veterans affairs.

25 (b) Upon a request from a county commission of veteran  
26 affairs and based on extenuating circumstances, the commandant of  
27 the Iowa department of veterans affairs may extend the time frame  
28 for an executive director or administrator to obtain a personal  
29 identification verification card.

30 (2) To complete continuing education federally required for  
31 the person's position, an executive director or administrator  
32 shall receive training only from entities approved by the  
33 commandant of the Iowa department of veterans affairs.  
34 Failure of an executive director or administrator to maintain  
35 certification shall be cause for removal from office. The

1 expenses of training the executive director or administrator  
2 shall be paid from the appropriation authorized in section  
3 35B.14.

4 EXPLANATION

5 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7 Under current law, the Iowa department of veterans affairs  
8 is required to submit an annual report to the governor and the  
9 general assembly including the county commissions of veteran  
10 affairs' training compliance and hours of veterans' services  
11 provided during the previous calendar year. This bill requires  
12 the hours of veterans' services in the report to be from the  
13 previous fiscal year.

14 The bill also requires an executive director or administrator  
15 of a county commission of veteran affairs to meet continuing  
16 education requirements established by the commandant of the  
17 Iowa department of veterans affairs and removes the requirement  
18 that an executive director or administrator meet the continuing  
19 education requirements of the national association of county  
20 veterans service officers.