

CHAPTER 1064

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS — COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP — TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES

S.F. 2366

AN ACT concerning the department of veterans affairs relating to membership on the commission of veterans affairs and expenditures from the veterans trust fund.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. [Section 35A.2, subsections 1 and 2](#), Code 2018, are amended to read as follows:

1. A commission of veterans affairs is created consisting of ~~nine~~ eleven persons who shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate. Members shall be appointed to staggered terms of four years beginning and ending as provided in [section 69.19](#). The governor shall fill a vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term. In addition to the members appointed by the governor, the director of the department and the commandant of the Iowa veterans home shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members of the commission.

2. ~~Eight Ten~~ commissioners shall be honorably discharged members of the armed forces of the United States. The American legion of Iowa, disabled American veterans department of Iowa, veterans of foreign wars department of Iowa, American veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, the Vietnam veterans of America, and the military order of the purple heart, the paralyzed veterans of America, and the Iowa association of county commissioners and veteran service officers, through their department commanders, shall submit two names respectively from their organizations to the governor. The adjutant general and the Iowa affiliate of the reserve officers association shall submit names to the governor of persons to represent the Iowa national guard and the association. The governor shall appoint from the group of names submitted by the adjutant general and reserve officers association two representatives and from each of the other organizations one representative to serve as a member of the commission, unless the appointments would conflict with the bipartisan and gender balance provisions of [sections 69.16](#) and [69.16A](#). In addition, the governor shall appoint one member of the public, knowledgeable in the general field of veterans affairs, to serve on the commission.

Sec. 2. [Section 35A.13, subsection 3](#), Code 2018, is amended to read as follows:

3. Moneys credited to the trust fund shall not be transferred, used, obligated, appropriated, or otherwise encumbered, except as provided in [this section](#). Moneys in the trust fund may be used for cash flow purposes during a fiscal year provided that any moneys so allocated are returned to the trust fund by the end of that fiscal year. Moneys in the trust fund may also be used for cemetery grant development purposes provided that any moneys so allocated, except for moneys used for department of administrative services expenditures related to the grant, are returned to the trust fund upon receipt of federal funds received for such purposes.

Sec. 3. [Section 35A.13, subsection 4](#), paragraph a, Code 2018, is amended to read as follows:

a. The minimum balance of the trust fund required prior to expenditure of moneys from the trust fund is five million dollars. Once the minimum balance is reached, the interest and earnings on the fund and the first ~~three~~ five hundred thousand dollars transferred each fiscal year pursuant to [section 99G.39](#) from the lottery fund to the trust fund are appropriated to the commission to be used to achieve the purposes of [subsection 6](#) of [this section](#). Moneys appropriated to the commission that remain unobligated or unexpended at the end of each fiscal year shall revert to the trust fund. It is the intent of the general assembly that the balance in the trust fund reach fifty million dollars.

Sec. 4. [Section 35A.13, subsection 6](#), paragraph 1, Code 2018, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 5. [Section 35A.13, subsection 6](#), Code 2018, is amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

NEW PARAGRAPH. o. Rental housing assistance for veterans who meet the definition of homeless, as set out in 42 U.S.C. §11302, for payment of rental application fees needed for obtaining rental housing.

NEW PARAGRAPH. p. Monetary assistance on a one-time basis per recipient to be used to prevent homelessness in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars per recipient.

Approved April 2, 2018