

**CHAPTER 123—S.F.No. 460**

*An act relating to veterans; authorizing the commissioner of veterans affairs to assist certain dependents of military personnel; clarifying the name of the state soldiers' welfare fund; changing certain requirements for appointment of county veterans service officers; containing instructions to the revisor of statutes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 196.05; 197.03; and 197.60, subdivision 2, and by adding a subdivision.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 196.05, is amended to read:

**196.05 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER.**

The commissioner shall:

(1) act as the agent of a resident of the state having a claim against the United States for benefits arising out of or by reason of service in the armed forces and prosecute the claim without charge;

(2) act as custodian of veterans' bonus records;

(3) administer the laws relating to the providing of bronze flag holders at veterans' graves for memorial purposes;

(4) administer the laws relating to recreational or rest camps for veterans so far as applicable to state agencies;

(5) administer the state soldiers' welfare fund and veterans' relief fund and other funds appropriated for the payment of bonuses or other benefits to veterans or for the rehabilitation of veterans;

(6) cooperate with national, state, county, municipal, and private social agencies in securing to veterans and their dependents the benefits provided by national, state, and county laws, municipal ordinances, or public and private social agencies;

(7) provide necessary assistance where other adequate aid is not available to the dependent family of a veteran while the veteran is hospitalized and after the veteran is released for as long a period as is necessary as determined by the commissioner;

(8) act as the guardian of the estate for a minor or an incompetent person receiving money from the United States government when requested to do so by an agency of the United States of America provided sufficient personnel are available;

(9) cooperate with United States governmental agencies providing compensation, pensions, insurance, or other benefits provided by federal law, by supplementing the benefits prescribed therein, when conditions in an individual case make it necessary;

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(10) assist in implementing state laws, rights, and privileges relating to the reemployment of veterans upon their separation from the armed forces;

(11) contact, at times as the commissioner deems proper, war veterans, as defined in section 197.447, who are confined in a public institution; investigate the treatment accorded those veterans and report annually to the governor the results of the investigations; and the heads of the public institutions shall permit the commissioner, or the commissioner's representative, to visit any veteran; and, if the commissioner, or the commissioner's representative requests any information relative to any veteran and the veteran's affairs, the head of the institution shall furnish it; ~~and~~

(12) assist dependent family members of military personnel who are called from reserve status to extended federal active duty during a time of war or national emergency through the state soldiers' assistance fund provided by section 197.03; and

(13) exercise other powers as may be authorized and necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and chapters 197 and 198, consistent with those chapters.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 197.03, is amended to read:

**197.03 STATE SOLDIERS' ~~WELFARE~~ ASSISTANCE FUND CREATED.**

There is created a state soldiers' ~~welfare~~ assistance fund to aid and assist any citizen of Minnesota or resident alien residing in Minnesota who served in the military or naval forces of the United States, in securing compensation, hospitalization, medical treatment, insurance or other relief or benefits to which the server may be entitled from the United States or any other government or state and for the emergency relief, hospitalization, treatment and maintenance of all such persons who were bona fide residents of the state at the time their need arose and their dependents as ~~hereinafter~~ provided by sections 196.05 and 197.04 to 197.07.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 197.60, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Except as otherwise prescribed in sections 197.60 to 197.606, the term of appointment of a veterans service officer appointed pursuant to this section shall be for four years with the first 12 months of the initial appointment being a probationary period, unless removed for cause upon written charges and after a hearing thereon. If the board of county commissioners does not intend to reappoint a county veterans service officer who has been certified by the department of veteran affairs, the board shall present written notice to the county veterans service officer, not later than 90 days before the termination of the county veterans service officer's term, that it does not intend to reappoint the county veterans service officer. If written notice is not timely made, the county veterans

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service officer must automatically be reappointed by the board of county commissioners.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 197.60, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. OATH. Every county veterans service officer, before entering upon duties, shall take and subscribe the oath required of public officials.

Sec. 5. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes is directed to change the words "soldiers' welfare fund" where found in Minnesota Statutes, sections 196.05, 197.02, 197.03, 197.04, 197.05, 197.06, and 197.07, to the words "soldiers' assistance fund" in Minnesota Statutes 1992 and subsequent editions.

Sec. 6. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 and 2 are effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 17, 1991

Signed by the governor May 21, 1991, 1:12 p.m.

**CHAPTER 124—H.F.No. 934**

*An act relating to motor vehicles; prohibiting registration of vehicle for which salvage certificate of title is issued; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 168A.152, subdivision 1.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 168A.152, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION.** A salvage certificate of title authorizes the holder to possess, transport, register, and transfer ownership in a vehicle. A salvage certificate of title does not authorize the holder to register a vehicle. A certificate of title must not be issued for a vehicle for which a salvage certificate of title has been issued unless a certification of inspection in the form and content specified by the department accompanies the application for a certificate of title.

Presented to the governor May 17, 1991

Signed by the governor May 21, 1991, 1:15 p.m.

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