

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4970**

A bill to amend 1953 PA 192, entitled

"An act to create a county department of veterans' affairs in certain counties, and to prescribe its powers and duties; and to transfer the powers and duties of the soldiers' relief commission in such counties,"

by amending section 1 (MCL 35.621), as amended by 2012 PA 235.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. **(1)** The county board of commissioners may create a
2 county department of veterans' affairs. The **COUNTY** department **OF**
3 **VETERANS' AFFAIRS** shall be under the administration of a committee
4 of 3 to ~~5-7~~ veterans, appointed by the county board of
5 commissioners. ~~who~~ **MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE** shall be
6 residents of the county ~~and~~ who have served honorably on active
7 duty in the United States ~~armed forces or who served actively in~~
8 ~~the United States armed forces in a war or received an armed forces~~
9 ~~campaign or service medal~~ **ARMED FORCES.**

1 (2) **COMMITTEE MEMBERS APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) SHALL**
2 **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

3 (A) **AT LEAST 1 MEMBER REPRESENTING A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED**
4 **VETERANS' ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE COUNTY,** to be appointed upon the
5 recommendation of the posts of each chartered veterans'
6 organization within the county.

7 (B) **AT LEAST 1 INDEPENDENT MEMBER WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE A**
8 **MEMBER OF A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VETERANS' ORGANIZATION WITHIN**
9 **THE COUNTY.**

10 (3) Each **COMMITTEE** member appointed **UNDER THIS SECTION** shall
11 have demonstrated knowledge, skills, and experience in public
12 service, business, or finance.

13 (4) If an opening on a committee of veterans occurs, the
14 county board of commissioners shall provide notice of that opening
15 to 1 or more newspapers within the county and to veteran service
16 organizations within the county.

17 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law ~~of this state to~~
18 the contrary, a member of the **COUNTY** board of commissioners of a
19 county ~~shall be~~ **IS** eligible for appointment **UNDER THIS SECTION.**
20 ~~Members~~

21 (6) **COMMITTEE MEMBERS** appointed by the **COUNTY** board of
22 commissioners **UNDER THIS SECTION** shall be appointed for a term of 4
23 years each. However, the terms for **COMMITTEE** members first
24 appointed shall be staggered so that not more than 2 vacancies are
25 scheduled to occur in a single year. Vacancies shall be filled in
26 the same manner as original appointments for the unexpired terms.

27 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days

1 after the date it is enacted into law.