

HOUSE BILL No. 5660

June 11, 2014, Introduced by Reps. MacMaster and Franz and referred to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs.

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 department shall be
3 under the administration of a committee of 3 to 5 veterans,
4 appointed by the county board of commissioners, who, **EXCEPT AS**
5 **OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)**, shall be residents of the
6 county, and who have served honorably on active duty in the United
7 States armed forces or who served actively in the United States

1 armed forces in a war or received an armed forces campaign or
2 service medal, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the posts
3 of each chartered veterans' organization within the county. Each
4 member appointed shall have demonstrated knowledge, skills, and
5 experience in public service, business, or finance. ~~If~~**SUBJECT TO**
6 **SUBSECTION (3), IF** an opening on a committee of veterans occurs,
7 the county board of commissioners shall provide notice of that
8 opening to 1 or more newspapers within the county and to veteran
9 service organizations within the county. Notwithstanding the
10 provisions of any law of this state to the contrary, a member of
11 the board of commissioners of a county shall be eligible for
12 appointment. Members appointed by the board of commissioners shall
13 be appointed for a term of 4 years each. However, the terms for
14 members first appointed shall be staggered so that not more than 2
15 vacancies are scheduled to occur in a single year. Vacancies shall
16 be filled in the same manner as original appointments for the
17 unexpired terms.

18 (2) **IF A COUNTY ENTERS INTO A CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER COUNTY TO**
19 **PROVIDE CERTAIN VETERANS SERVICES TO VETERANS IN THAT COUNTY, A**
20 **VOTING MEMBER MAY BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE OF VETERANS WHO IS**
21 **NOT A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY THAT IS PROVIDING THE VETERANS**
22 **SERVICES IF BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:**

23 (A) **THE MEMBER IS A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY THAT IS PROVIDED**
24 **VETERANS SERVICES UNDER THE CONTRACT.**

25 (B) **THE MEMBER MEETS ALL OF THE OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF**
26 **SUBSECTION (1).**

27 (3) **IF A NONRESIDENT VOTING MEMBER IS APPOINTED TO THE**

1 COMMITTEE OF VETERANS AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) AND AN
2 OPENING OCCURS INVOLVING THAT NONRESIDENT POSITION ON THE
3 COMMITTEE, THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY THAT IS
4 PROVIDING THE VETERANS SERVICES UNDER THE CONTRACT SHALL PROVIDE
5 NOTICE OF THAT OPENING TO 1 OR MORE NEWSPAPERS IN THE COUNTY THAT
6 IS PROVIDED VETERANS SERVICES UNDER THE CONTRACT AND TO VETERANS
7 SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTY THAT IS PROVIDED VETERANS
8 SERVICES UNDER THE CONTRACT.