

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1231

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE SOLOMON

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1 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 8 through 17; page 2, lines 1
2 through 30; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and
3 inserting

4 § 712. Veterans registry.

5 (a) Establishment of veterans registry.--The department
6 shall establish a registry of veterans residing in this
7 Commonwealth in order to provide information on Federal, State
8 and local government benefits, programs and services available
9 to veterans and to link veterans with resources that can provide
10 assistance. Upon registration, if permission is granted by the
11 registrant, the registrant's information shall be shared with
12 county directors of veterans affairs and other State agencies.

13 (b) Coordination with State agencies.--The department shall
14 coordinate with other State agencies that have contact with
15 veterans to establish a paper and online registry form to enable
16 State agencies to assist the department in registering veterans
17 who wish to be included in the registry.

18 (c) Duties of the department.--The department shall provide
19 access to a paper and online form which contains a statement
20 indicating the purpose for the registry. The form shall be
21 developed to obtain the following information relating to the
22 veteran:

23 (1) Personal information, including title, first, middle
24 and last name.

25 (2) Age, gender, address and county of residence.

26 (3) Ten-digit phone number and email address.

27 (4) Declaration of military service.

28 (5) Benefit and program information requests for various
29 benefits and programs for which veterans may be eligible.

30 (6) A signed statement, or for online applicants a box
31 that is checked, indicating that the veteran grants
32 permission for the department to store and share the
33 veteran's information with the county director of veterans
34 affairs for the county indicated and with other State
35 agencies to ensure that the Commonwealth provides the veteran
36 assistance in receiving earned benefits.

37 (7) The State agency which assisted the veteran.

1 (d) Duties of State agencies.--State agencies under
2 subsection (b) shall:

3 (1) Utilize the paper or online registry form to develop
4 a mechanism to identify veterans the agency serves for the
5 purpose of expanding the registry.

6 (2) For each veteran who wishes to be included in the
7 registry, provide assistance in filling out the paper or
8 online registry form for the department to add the veteran to
9 the registry.

10 (3) Submit a registrant's paper registry form to the
11 department within 30 days from the date the veteran opts in
12 to the registry.

13 (e) Use of information.--Information collected under this
14 section may not be sold or used for commercial purposes or used
15 for purposes not specified under this section.

16 (f) Report.--By January 1, 2018, and each January 1
17 thereafter, the department shall submit to the chairperson and
18 minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency
19 Preparedness Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and
20 minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency
21 Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives a report
22 on the registry which shall include:

23 (1) The total number of veterans registered with the
24 department annually.

25 (2) The number of registrants received by each State
26 agency.

27 (3) The number of veterans who choose not to be included
28 in the registry annually from each State agency.

29 (4) Outreach expenses incurred by the department.

30 (g) Guidelines.--The Adjutant General may adopt and
31 promulgate guidelines necessary to carry out the provisions of
32 this section.