



S.B. 120

123rd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Watts

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires members and service officers of county veterans service commissions to file discharge information with the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs.
- Designates November 10 of each year as "Veterans Educate Today's Students Day."
- Requires the Department of Education to distribute to school libraries a book and videotape relating to the Ohio Veterans Plaza.
- Requires that Ohio burgees placed in the Ohio Veterans Plaza be flown continuously from each May 6 to December 8.
- Requires the payment of the existing additional \$10 fee in connection with Purple Heart special license plates only when the license plates are issued, and eliminates the payment of the additional fee when the license plates are renewed.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Designation of "Veterans Educate Today's Students Day"

Under existing law, the 11th of November, known as Veterans' Day, must be commemorated in the schools (sec. 5.23). The bill designates the 10th of November as "Veterans Educate Today's Students Day" or "V.E.T.S. Day." The bill states that each elementary and secondary school in Ohio is encouraged to commemorate and observe this day by inviting veterans, on or about this day, to visit the school and discuss their military experiences with the students of the school. (Sec. 5.23(B).)

Distribution of information about the Ohio Veterans Plaza

The bill requires the Department of Education to distribute to the library of each secondary school in Ohio a copy of the book "Letters Home: The Letters of the Ohio Veterans Plaza" and a videotape of the Ohio Veterans Plaza Dedication (sec. 3301.25).

Required dates for display of Ohio burgees in the Ohio Veterans Plaza

The bill requires that Ohio burgees placed in the Ohio Veterans Plaza, located adjacent to the east side of the Senate Building, be flown continuously from the 6th of May to the 8th of December of each year (sec. 5902.10).

Filing of discharge information with the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Service Commission members

Under existing law, each county must have a five-member Veterans Service Commission. Among other requirements, each member must be an honorably discharged or honorably separated veteran. The bill specifies that, within 60 days after their date of appointment, each member must file the member's form DD214, discharge certificate, and an authorization for release of information contained in the form, with the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs. (Sec. 5901.02.)

Service officers

The bill adds a similar requirement for the county veterans service officers who must be employed by each Veterans Service Commission, with their 60-day filing period commencing with their date of initial employment. Currently, these service officers also must be veterans. (Sec. 5901.07.)

Miscellaneous. The bill adds to the existing list of duties of the Director of the Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs a duty to receive copies of these discharge certificates and information release authorizations from Veterans Service Commission members and service officers (sec. 5902.02(M)). In addition, the bill requires these members and officers *who are serving on the effective date of the bill* to file the required documents within 60 days after that date (Section 3).

Payment of \$10 fee in connection with a Purple Heart special license plate

Current law provides for the issuance of special license plates inscribed with the words "Purple Heart" to persons awarded a Purple Heart who meet certain requirements, pay a regular license fee, any local motor vehicle license tax, and an additional \$10 fee to compensate the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for additional

services required in issuing the special plates. The bill specifies that the \$10 fee must be paid only when the special plates are issued and that no additional fee can be charged when a validation sticker alone is issued. (Sec. 4503.571.)

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
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