



Am. H.B. 123

124th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Finance and Appropriations)

Reps. Distel, Hartnett, Fedor, Seitz, Jerse, Flannery, D. Miller, Willamowski, Redfern, Otterman, Rhine, Britton, Cates, Allen, DePiero, Jones, Ford, Boccieri, R. Miller, Wilson, Barrett, Faber, Grendell, Metzger, Carey, Calvert, Core, Husted, Hughes, Widowfield

BILL SUMMARY

- ? Increases from \$300 to \$500 the maximum amount a county can pay a veterans' organization as a stipend for defraying Memorial Day expenses.
- ? Provides that the stipend application period begins 120 days before Memorial Day, instead of 30 days.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under current law, local chapters of veterans' organizations can apply to the county in which they are located for stipends to help defray Memorial Day expenses. The application period begins 30 days prior to the holiday. To be eligible to receive a stipend, an organization must be recognized and chartered by Congress.¹ The board of county commissioners is required to appropriate the funds necessary to pay the stipends, and the maximum amount that can be paid is \$300 per organization. The organizations can use the stipends for expenses of arranging, supporting, or participating in local or countywide observances, and also for mapping, marking, and decorating veterans' graves. Any amounts not expended must be repaid to the county.

The bill increases the maximum amount of a stipend to \$500. In addition, the bill lengthens the application period for a stipend, so that veterans' organizations can begin filing applications 120 days prior to Memorial Day.

¹ *The law specifies that garrisons and naval branches of the Army and Navy Union, U.S.A. also are eligible for the stipend.*

The bill also eliminates obsolete references in the stipend law to veterans of the Spanish War, and to veteran's organizations chartered as "camps."

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	02-22-01	p. 177
Reported, H. Finance and Appropriations	10-02-01	pp. 867-868

h0123-rh.124/kl

