

STATE OF NEW YORK

2424--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2017

Introduced by Sens. HAMILTON, PERKINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to the powers and duties of the veterans' affairs commission

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby recognizes that
2 New York state's veterans, particularly those who suffered service-re-
3 lated disabilities, have unique needs as a result of the sacrifices they
4 made during their military service. It is also hereby acknowledged by
5 the legislature that due to the complexity of their needs, such individ-
6 uals require accessible, coordinated, and specialized services within
7 their communities from multiple state and local agencies. The legisla-
8 ture finds that there is an immediate need for a statewide comprehensive
9 program to coordinate such services.

10 § 2. Subdivision 5 of section 352 of the executive law, as amended by
11 chapter 501 of the laws of 1993, is amended and a new subdivision 6 is
12 added to read as follows:

13 5. The commission shall have~~[, and it shall be its duty, to]~~ the
14 following powers and duties:

15 (i) assist the state director in the formulation of policies affecting
16 veterans; ~~[and in the]~~

17 (ii) assist the state director in coordination of all operations of
18 state agencies relating to veterans' affairs~~[-]~~;

19 (iii) promote the implementation of a comprehensive statewide program
20 of coordinated services for service-disabled veterans that includes: (a)
21 matters pertaining to educational training and retraining services and
22 facilities, (b) health, medical and rehabilitation services, (c) employ-

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 ment and re-employment services, (d) housing options, (e) transportation
2 options, (f) long term care options, (g) personal care, (h) day program
3 service options, (i) family outreach and (j) other essential services
4 that maximize existing resources;

5 (iv) to disseminate general information about available services to
6 service-disabled veterans and how such services may be accessed; and

7 (v) to conduct on an ongoing evaluation of the needs of service disa-
8 bled veterans.

9 6. The chairperson shall provide a report to the governor and the
10 senate committee on veterans, homeland security and military affairs,
11 and the assembly committee on veterans' affairs annually by March first.

12 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
13 have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the
14 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary
15 for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized
16 and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.