

STATE OF NEW YORK

3397

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 27, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. RAGA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to revising the New York state veteran's memorial and monument registry

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-a of the veterans' services law, as added by
2 chapter 14 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

3 § 29-a. [~~Veterans~~] New York state veteran's memorial and monument
4 registry. 1. The New York state veteran's memorial and monument registry
5 is hereby established and shall be developed and maintained by the
6 department [~~is directed to develop a veterans memorial registry in~~
7 ~~consultation~~] in collaboration with the director of the New York state
8 military museum and veterans resource center, the commissioner of the
9 office of parks, recreation and historic preservation, the commissioner
10 of the office of general services [~~and~~], the state historian, and
11 respective agencies and veteran organizations within New York towns,
12 villages, counties and cities. The registry shall be made available on
13 the department's website.

14 2. The registry shall consist of a searchable and filterable database
15 of those [~~veterans~~] veteran's memorials located within the state submit-
16 ted pursuant to subdivision three of this section. The registry shall
17 include, but not be limited to, [~~information regarding~~] a comprehensive
18 list of all dedicated veteran monuments and memorials, the location,
19 history, significance, and images of [~~a memorial and~~] such dedicated
20 veteran monuments and memorials, who or what veteran or battle such
21 memorial is honoring [~~. Additional information may include historical~~]
22 and information such as who authorized the erection of such memorial and
23 the year of the dedication. Such registry shall be searchable and
24 filterable by location, veteran [~~or~~], conflict era, battle or any other
25 criteria the state commissioner deems relevant.

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

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3. The state commissioner shall issue, on behalf of the department, a public request for information for any county, city, town, or village desiring to have any memorial located within their municipality listed within the registry. Each county, city, town~~[, or]~~ and village ~~[may]~~ shall submit responses to the department's request for information ~~[at any time]~~ within one hundred twenty days after the request for information has been issued; provided, however, every county, city, town and village with a population of one million or more shall submit responses to the department's request for information within one year after the request for information has been issued. Individuals and organizations, including but not limited to, local veterans' service agencies staff and members of congressionally chartered veterans' service organizations may provide recommendations to a municipality for inclusion in the registry. In responding to the department's public request for information, a municipality shall identify ~~[the memorial or]~~ any memorials and monuments it desires to have included in the registry and submit any information required pursuant to subdivision two of this section to the department. The registry shall be updated within sixty days of the department receiving information on any veteran's memorials and monuments with such information.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.