STATE OF NEW YORK

274--B

Cal. No. 738

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MARTINEZ -- 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 -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, passed by Senate and delivered to the Assembly, recalled, vote reconsidered, restored to third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to establishing voluntary opportunities for veterans

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

Section 1. Section 4 of the veterans' services law is amended by adding a new subdivision 30-a to read as follows:

30-a. (a) To provide information on the department's website on volunteer opportunities available to veterans as defined in section one of this article, including but not limited to working at the department, or a volunteer fire department or emergency services provider.

(b) The department shall post on their website under the employment portal any relevant application forms that a qualified veteran can use to apply for volunteer opportunities or to request additional information.

§ 2. Subdivision 1 of section 15 of the veterans' services law, as amended by chapter 445 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

1. A local veterans' service agency shall have power under the direction of the state veterans' service agency, and it shall be its duty to inform military and naval authorities of the United States and assist members of the uniformed services and veterans, who are residents of

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

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this state, and their families, in relation to (1) matters pertaining to educational training and retraining services and facilities, (2) health, medical and rehabilitation services and facilities, (3) provisions of federal, state and local laws and regulations affording special rights and privileges to members of the uniformed services and veterans and their families, (4) employment and re-employment services, (5) the process of submitting an application for a discharge upgrade to the discharge upgrade advisory board, [~~and~~] (6) **volunteer opportunities at the department and volunteer fire departments or emergency services providers, and (7)** other matters of similar, related or appropriate nature. The local veterans' service agency may also assist families of members of the reserve components of the uniformed services and the organized militia ordered into active duty to ensure that they are made aware of and are receiving all appropriate support available to them and are placed in contact with the agencies responsible for such support, including, but not limited to, the division of military and naval affairs and other state agencies responsible for providing such support. The local veterans' service agency also shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the state commissioner.

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