

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans' Affairs Act is
5 amended by adding Section 38 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/38 new)

7 Sec. 38. Veterans' Service-Related Ailments Task Force.

8 (a) The Veterans' Service-Related Ailments Task Force is
9 created. The Task Force shall review and make recommendations
10 regarding veterans' service-related ailments that are not
11 recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,
12 including exploring why certain service-related ailments are
13 not recognized and determining what may be done to have them
14 recognized.

15 (b) The Task Force shall have 11 members, comprised as
16 follows:

17 (1) The Director of Veterans' Affairs or the Director's
18 designee, who shall serve as chairperson.

19 (2) 2 Members from the House of Representatives,
20 appointed one each by the Speaker of the House and the
21 House Minority Leader.

22 (3) 2 Members of the Senate, appointed one each by the
23 President of the Senate and the Senate Minority Leader.

1 (4) One veteran, appointed by the Director of Veterans'
2 Affairs.

3 (5) One medical professional with experience working
4 with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, appointed by
5 the Director of Veterans' Affairs.

6 (6) 4 representatives from a variety of veterans
7 organizations representing geographic diversity in the
8 State, appointed by the Director of Veterans' Affairs.

9 Task Force members shall serve without compensation but may
10 be reimbursed for their expenses incurred in performing their
11 duties.

12 (c) The Task Force shall meet at least once every 2 months
13 beginning July 1, 2019, and at other times as determined by the
14 Task Force.

15 (d) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide
16 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

17 (e) The Task Force shall prepare a report that summarizes
18 its work and makes recommendations resulting from its study.
19 The Task Force shall submit the report of its findings and
20 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by
21 December 31, 2019. The Task Force is dissolved, and this
22 Section is repealed, on December 31, 2020.

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
24 becoming law.