



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3515

Introduced 2/22/2021, by Rep. Keith R. Wheeler

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

330 ILCS 45/9

from Ch. 23, par. 3089

Amends the Military Veterans Assistance Act. Provides that if a post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment of a military veterans organization serves more than one county, then it shall be permitted to select one delegate and one alternate for the Veterans Assistance Commission in each county in which at least 25% of its members reside. Effective immediately.

LRB102 14642 KTG 19995 b

1 AN ACT concerning veterans.

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

4 Section 5. The Military Veterans Assistance Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 9 as follows:

6 (330 ILCS 45/9) (from Ch. 23, par. 3089)

7 Sec. 9. Veterans Assistance Commission.

8 (a) In counties having 2 or more posts, camps, chapters or  
9 detachments of military veterans organizations as may be  
10 recognized by law, a central assistance committee may be  
11 organized to be known as the Veterans Assistance Commission of  
12 such county, composed of delegates and alternates from a  
13 majority of such posts, camps, units, and chapters or ship  
14 selected annually as determined by each post, ship, camp, or  
15 chapter. When so organized a commission shall be clothed with  
16 all the powers and charged with all the duties theretofore  
17 devolving upon the different posts and chapters as provided in  
18 Section 2.

19 (1) Beginning on January 1, 2017, and every January 1  
20 thereafter, all Veterans Assistance Commissions shall  
21 publish a notice to each post, camp, unit, chapter, ship,  
22 or detachment of a military veterans organization within  
23 their respective county calling on them to select

1 delegates and alternates for that county's Veterans  
2 Assistance Commission by the methods provided in this  
3 subsection. The Veterans Assistance Commissions shall  
4 allow each post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment  
5 of a military veterans organization 60 days to respond.

6 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), posts, camps,  
7 units, chapters, ships, or detachments of a military  
8 veterans organization shall be permitted to select one  
9 delegate and one alternate.

10 (3) In counties with 5 or more posts, camps, units,  
11 chapters, ships, or detachments of the same military  
12 veterans organization, all the constituent posts, camps,  
13 units, chapters, ships, or detachments of such military  
14 organizations shall be permitted to select a single  
15 delegate and single alternate to represent that military  
16 veterans organization instead of each constituent post,  
17 camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment selecting one  
18 delegate and one alternate. For the purposes of meeting  
19 the majority requirement of this subsection, when the  
20 constituent groups of a military veterans organization  
21 choose to select a single delegate and single alternate,  
22 the single delegate and single alternate shall represent  
23 the aggregate percentage of the constituent groups.

24 (4) If a post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or  
25 detachment of a military veterans organization serves more  
26 than one county, then it shall be permitted to select one

1       delegate and one alternate for the Veterans Assistance  
2       Commission in each county in which at least 25% of its  
3       members reside.

4       (b) The Commission superintendent and the president or  
5       chairman of the county board, or some other county officer  
6       appointed by him, shall have general oversight of the  
7       distribution of all moneys and supplies appropriated by the  
8       county for the benefit of military veterans and their  
9       families, subject to such rules, regulations, administrative  
10      procedures or audit reviews as are necessary as approved by  
11      the county board to carry out the spirit and intent of this  
12      Act. No warrant authorized under this Act may be issued for the  
13      payment of money without the presentation of an itemized  
14      statement or claim, approved by the superintendent of the  
15      Commission.

16      If general assistance funds are allocated to a county for  
17      assistance to military veterans and their families as provided  
18      in the Illinois Public Aid Code, the administration of such  
19      funds and of county tax funds levied for such purpose as  
20      provided in Section 5-2006 of the Counties Code shall be  
21      subject to the supervision of the Department of Human Services  
22      in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Public Aid  
23      Code. The superintendent of the Veterans Assistance Commission  
24      must comply with the procedures and regulations adopted by the  
25      Veterans Assistance Commission and the regulations of the  
26      Department of Human Services. To further the intent of this

1 Act of assisting military veterans, this Act is to be  
2 construed so that the Veterans Assistance Commission shall  
3 provide needed services to eligible veterans.

4 (Source: P.A. 99-853, eff. 8-19-16.)

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
6 becoming law.