

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 Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business
5 Practices Act is amended by adding Section 2WWW as follows:

6 (815 ILCS 505/2WWW new)

7 Sec. 2WWW. Deceptive practices targeting veterans and
8 military members.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Veteran or military benefits services" means any services
11 offered or provided to a veteran, military member, or family
12 member who is entitled to receive benefits under federal,
13 State, or local law, policy, or practice as a result of, at
14 least in part, qualifying military service. Such services
15 include assistance in obtaining benefits, increasing benefits,
16 or appealing a decision related to obtaining or increasing
17 benefits.

18 "Veteran's services disclosure" means providing, in upper
19 case type in size at least as large as the type size of the
20 written communication or by voice-over, the following
21 statement: "VETERAN AND MILITARY BENEFITS SERVICES ARE
22 AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS,
23 THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND FEDERALLY

1 CHARTERED VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS. TO LEARN MORE,
2 CONTACT THESE ORGANIZATIONS OR THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
3 OFFICE AT 1-800-382-3000.".

4 (b) It is an unlawful practice within the meaning of this
5 Act for any person providing veteran or military benefits
6 services to:

7 (1) Fail in any advertising to conspicuously disclose
8 a veteran's services disclosure when veteran or military
9 benefits services are provided in exchange for a benefit
10 or thing of value.

11 (2) Fail to obtain, or to obtain a pending application
12 for, all veteran or military benefits services
13 qualifications, certifications, and accreditations
14 required under State or federal law.

15 (3) Fail, when acting as a fiduciary for a veteran
16 receiving benefits, to meet the responsibilities of
17 fiduciaries under 38 CFR 13.140.

18 (4) Fail, when providing representation before the
19 United States Department of Veterans Affairs, to meet the
20 standards of conduct under 38 CFR 14.632.

21 (5) Charge fees or expenses in violation of 38 CFR
22 14.636 or 14.637.