

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 Code of Illinois is amended by
5 changing Section 22-9 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1805/22-9)

7 Sec. 22-9. Power to make grants from the Illinois Military
8 Family Relief Fund. Subject to appropriation, the Department of
9 Military Affairs shall have the power to make grants from the
10 Illinois Military Family Relief Fund, a special fund created in
11 the State treasury, to single persons who are members of the
12 Illinois National Guard or Illinois residents who are members
13 of the reserves of the armed forces of the United States and
14 who have been called to active duty as a result of the
15 September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and to families of persons
16 who are members of the Illinois National Guard or Illinois
17 residents who are members of the reserves of the armed forces
18 of the United States and who have been called to active duty as
19 a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The
20 Department of Military Affairs shall establish eligibility
21 criteria for the grants by rule.

22 In addition to amounts transferred into the Fund under
23 Section 510 of the Illinois Income Tax Act, the State Treasurer
24 shall accept and deposit into the Fund all gifts, grants,
25 transfers, appropriations, and other amounts from any legal
26 source, public or private, that are designated for deposit into
27 the Fund.

28 (Source: P.A. 92-886, eff. 2-7-03; 93-506, eff. 8-11-03.)

29 Section 10. The Survivors Compensation Act is amended by
30 adding Section 4 as follows:

1 (330 ILCS 100/4 new)

2 Sec. 4. Compensation in connection with deceased veterans
3 of the Global War on Terrorism.

4 (a) The widow or widower, child or children, mother,
5 father, persons standing in loco parentis, brothers and
6 sisters, in the order named, of any deceased person if (i) that
7 person was a resident of Illinois for at least 12 months
8 immediately preceding entry into military service and (ii) that
9 person's death was service-connected as a result of hostile
10 action on or after September 11, 2001 and prior to such time as
11 Congress declares such persons ineligible for the Global War on
12 Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or the Global War on Terrorism
13 Service Medal shall be paid \$3,000.

14 (b) If a preceding beneficiary fails to file a claim of
15 compensation after the official notice of death, the Department
16 of Veterans' Affairs may accept applications from succeeding
17 beneficiaries, and such beneficiaries may then proceed to
18 qualify upon submission of satisfactory proof of eligibility.

19 (c) No right or claim to compensation under this Section
20 may be assigned.

21 (d) The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs has
22 complete charge and control of the general scheme of payments
23 authorized by this Section and shall adopt general rules for
24 the making of those payments, for the ascertainment and
25 selection of proper beneficiaries and the amount to which those
26 beneficiaries are entitled, and for procedure.

27 (e) If the person to whom compensation is payable under
28 this Section is under legal disability, the compensation shall
29 be paid to the person legally vested with the care of the
30 legally disabled person under the laws of his or her state of
31 residence. If no such person has been so designated for the
32 legally disabled person, payment shall be made to the chief
33 officer of any hospital or institution under the supervision or
34 control of any state or of the Veterans Administration of the
35 United States in which the legally disabled person is placed,
36 if the officer is authorized to accept moneys for the benefit

1 of the incompetent. Any payments so made shall be held or used
2 solely for the benefit of the legally disabled person.

3 As used in this Section, a person "under legal disability"
4 means any person found to be so disabled by a court of
5 competent jurisdiction of any state or the District of Columbia
6 or by any adjudication officer of the Veterans Administration
7 of the United States.

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
9 becoming law.