

1 AN ACT concerning veterans home advisory councils.

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 2.08 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/2.08 new)

7 Sec. 2.08. Veterans Home Advisory Councils.

8 (a) The Department shall establish a Veterans Home Advisory
9 Council for each Illinois Veterans Home. Each council shall
10 consist of the following members:

11 (1) Four members, one each appointed by the President
12 of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the
13 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Minority
14 Leader of the House of Representatives, to serve at the
15 pleasure of the appointing authority.

16 (2) One member appointed by the Commander or President
17 of each Veterans Service Organization that (i) is chartered
18 by the federal government and chartered by the State of
19 Illinois and (ii) elects to appoint a member. Members
20 appointed under this paragraph (2) shall serve for terms of
21 2 years.

22 (3) Four members selected by the residents of the
23 veterans home for terms of 4 years.

24 (4) The Director of the Department, ex officio, or his
25 or her designee.

26 (b) Members of the councils shall serve without
27 compensation or reimbursement. Members of a council shall
28 select one of their number to serve as chairperson. Each
29 council shall meet at least quarterly, and at the call of the
30 chair.

31 (c) The Department shall provide meeting space and clerical
32 and administrative support services for each of the councils.

1 (d) A Veterans Home Advisory Council shall give advice on
2 the level and appropriateness of the care provided by the
3 veterans home and may consider and give advice on any other
4 matter relating to the veterans home. A council may report its
5 findings and conclusions informally to the Department or the
6 veterans home administration, or formally in writing to the
7 Governor, the Department, and the General Assembly, as it deems
8 appropriate.

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