

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 Veterans' Health Insurance Program Act of  
5 2008 is amended by changing Section 45 as follows:

6 (330 ILCS 126/45)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2012)

8 Sec. 45. Reporting.

9 (a) The Department shall prepare an annual report for  
10 submission to the General Assembly. The report shall be due to  
11 the General Assembly by January 1 of each year beginning in  
12 2009. This report shall include information regarding  
13 implementation of the Program, including the number of veterans  
14 enrolled and any available information regarding other  
15 benefits derived from the Program, including screening for and  
16 acquisition of other veterans' benefits through the Veterans'  
17 Service Officers and the Veterans' Assistance Commissions.  
18 This report may also include recommendations regarding  
19 improvements that may be made to the Program and regarding the  
20 extension of the repeal date set forth in Section 85 of this  
21 Act.

22 (b) The Department shall also arrange for the conducting of  
23 an evaluation regarding the availability of and access to

1 health care for veterans who are residents of Illinois, taking  
2 into consideration the program established by this Act,  
3 programs and services provided by the U.S. Department of  
4 Veterans Affairs, and programs and services otherwise provided  
5 by and available through other public and private entities. The  
6 evaluation shall determine whether there are limitations or  
7 barriers to care, gaps in service, or other deficits that  
8 should be overcome to ensure that veterans are provided  
9 appropriate and high-quality care. The Department shall report  
10 on the results of this evaluation to the Governor and the  
11 General Assembly by March 1, 2010.

12 (Source: P.A. 95-755, eff. 7-25-08.)

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
14 becoming law.