



Rep. Michael W. Tryon

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09600HB4212ham001

LRB096 04705 AJ0 24890 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4212

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 4212 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Military and Veterans Courts Act.

6 Section 5. Purposes. The General Assembly recognizes that  
7 military members and military veterans may have certain  
8 service-related conditions that may apply in a court of law.  
9 There is a critical need for a military and veterans justice  
10 system that will take into account service-related mental  
11 health problems as well as circumstances surrounding  
12 deployment. It is the intent of the General Assembly to create  
13 a Military and Veterans Court Task Force to investigate and  
14 develop a statutory basis for a specialized military and  
15 veterans court system with the necessary flexibility to meet  
16 unique service-related problems in the State of Illinois. The

1 General Assembly recognizes that the use and abuse of alcohol  
2 or drugs, mental health conditions, and problematic social  
3 interactions that affect and confront some veterans and members  
4 of the armed services on active duty have a dramatic effect on  
5 the justice system in the State of Illinois. There is a  
6 critical need for a military and veterans justice system  
7 program that will recognize and address the unique problems and  
8 circumstances faced by veterans and members of the armed forces  
9 on active duty and the legal issues that are impacted by those  
10 problems and circumstances so as to reduce the incidence of  
11 violence, drug use, drug addiction, alcohol use, alcohol  
12 addiction, mental health conditions, and crimes committed by  
13 some veterans and members of the armed services on active duty.  
14 It is the intent of the General Assembly to create the Military  
15 and Veterans Court Task Force to address these challenges  
16 facing the State of Illinois.

17 Section 10. Task Force established.

18 (a) There is established the Military and Veterans Court  
19 Task Force.

20 (b) The Governor's office shall provide administrative  
21 support to the Task Force as needed.

22 Section 15. Membership; chair; meetings; quorum.

23 (a) The Military and Veterans Court Task Force shall be  
24 appointed as follows:

1 One member appointed by the Governor;

2 One member appointed by the Attorney General;

3 One member appointed by the President of the Senate;

4 One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
5 Senate;

6 One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
7 Representatives;

8 One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
9 House of Representatives;

10 One member, with experience with the Veterans Court in  
11 Cook County, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Circuit  
12 Court in Cook County;

13 One member, with experience with the Veterans Court in  
14 Madison County, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Third  
15 Judicial Circuit;

16 One member, with experience with the John Marshall Law  
17 School's Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic,  
18 appointed by the Dean of the John Marshall Law School;

19 One member, with experience with the Southern Illinois  
20 University School of Law's Veterans' Legal Assistance  
21 Program, appointed by the Dean of the School of Law of  
22 Southern Illinois University; and

23 One member appointed by the Dean of the College of Law  
24 at the University of Illinois.

25 (b) The member appointed by the Governor shall serve as the  
26 chair of the Task Force.

1           (c) The Task Force members shall receive no salary for  
2 serving, but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses  
3 incurred as a result of their duties as members of the Task  
4 Force from funds appropriated by the General Assembly for that  
5 purpose, or from funds obtained from sources other than the  
6 General Assembly.

7           (d) A majority of the members of the Task Force shall  
8 constitute a quorum.

9           (e) The Task Force shall study and recommend to the General  
10 Assembly a system of military and veterans courts, which shall  
11 supplement and not replace the existing court system. The Task  
12 Force shall make recommendations consistent with the goal that  
13 the military and veterans courts can be established on or after  
14 on June 1, 2010. The Task Force shall make its report to the  
15 General Assembly on or before November 1, 2009.

16           (f) The Task Force shall meet at least once every 2 weeks,  
17 and more frequently as necessary, at the call of the chair, and  
18 shall report its findings to the General Assembly as  
19 expeditiously as possible. Task Force meetings shall be held in  
20 a manner to accommodate participation by members in person or  
21 by use of telecommunication technology.

22           (g) Task Force recommendations shall take effect upon the  
23 effective date of a Public Act that enacts them.

24           (h) The Task Force is abolished June 1, 2010.

25           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.".