

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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 changing Section 20 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/20)

7 Sec. 20. Illinois Discharged Servicemember Task Force. The
8 Illinois Discharged Servicemember Task Force is hereby created
9 within the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Task Force shall
10 investigate the re-entry process for service members who return
11 to civilian life after being engaged in an active theater. The
12 investigation shall include the effects of post-traumatic
13 stress disorder, homelessness, disabilities, and other issues
14 the Task Force finds relevant to the re-entry process. For
15 fiscal year 2012, the Task Force shall include the availability
16 of prosthetics in its investigation. The Task Force shall
17 include the following members:

18 (a) a representative of the Department of Veterans
19 Affairs, who shall chair the committee;

20 (b) a representative from the Department of Military
21 Affairs;

22 (c) a representative from the Office of the Illinois
23 Attorney General;

1 (d) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
2 Speaker of the House;

3 (e) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
4 House Minority Leader;

5 (f) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
6 President of the Senate;

7 (g) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
8 Senate Minority Leader;

9 (h) 4 members chosen by the Department of Veterans
10 Affairs, who shall represent statewide veterans'
11 organizations or veterans' homeless shelters;

12 (i) one member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;
13 and

14 (j) a representative of the United States Department of
15 Veterans Affairs shall be invited to participate.

16 Vacancies in the Task Force shall be filled by the initial
17 appointing authority. Task Force members shall serve without
18 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses
19 incurred in performing duties associated with the Task Force.

20 By July 1, 2008 and by July 1 of each year thereafter, the
21 Task Force shall present an annual report of its findings to
22 the Governor, the Attorney General, the Director of Veterans'
23 Affairs, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Secretary of the
24 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

25 If the Task Force becomes inactive because active theaters
26 cease, the Director of Veterans Affairs may reactivate the Task

1 Force if active theaters are reestablished.

2 (Source: P.A. 95-294, eff. 8-20-07; 95-876, eff. 8-21-08.)