



Rep. Wayne Rosenthal

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LRB098 15977 KTG 59699 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 3222

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 3222 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is  
5 amended by adding Section 37 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/37 new)

7 Sec. 37. Illinois Joining Forces Foundation.

8 (a) The General Assembly finds that service members and  
9 veterans across the State of Illinois are frequently  
10 overwhelmed by the sea of goodwill toward those who serve in  
11 uniform; service members, veterans, and their families have  
12 difficulty navigating a fragmented system of support and,  
13 therefore, end up unable to access many of the federal, State,  
14 and non-profit resources available to them. Recognizing this  
15 problem, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Department  
16 of Military Affairs acted to establish the Illinois Joining

1 Forces initiative, a public-private network of military and  
2 veteran-serving organizations that are working together, in  
3 person and online, to create a no-wrong-door system of support  
4 for the State's military and veteran communities. Illinois  
5 Joining Forces is a nation-leading model, awarded by the U.S.  
6 Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Association of  
7 State Directors of Veterans Affairs for its groundbreaking work  
8 in creating smarter, collaborative community support for those  
9 in uniform, past and present. The foundation created by this  
10 amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly will serve to  
11 ensure the long-term sustainability of Illinois Joining  
12 Forces, which is critically important for the support of the  
13 State's military and veteran communities.

14 (b) The Illinois Joining Forces Foundation shall benefit  
15 service members, veterans, and their families by:

16 (1) convening military and veteran support  
17 organizations, through Illinois Joining Forces working  
18 groups, to build cross-sector relationships and mutual  
19 awareness;

20 (2) providing policy recommendations through Illinois  
21 Joining Forces member working groups to the Illinois  
22 Discharged Servicemember Task Force and the Illinois  
23 Veterans' Advisory Council;

24 (3) facilitating the transfer of information and  
25 knowledge among Illinois Joining Forces member  
26 organizations;

1           (4) maintaining and continuing to build the  
2           no-wrong-door online navigation platform;

3           (5) educating Illinois Joining Forces members and  
4           other community providers regarding military and veteran  
5           culture and needs, thus improving the collective capacity  
6           of the support system; and

7           (6) outreaching directly to service members, veterans,  
8           and their families regarding the no-wrong-door system that  
9           Illinois Joining Forces provides to them.

10          (c) The General Assembly authorizes the Department of  
11          Veterans' Affairs, in accordance with Section 10 of the State  
12          Agency Entity Creation Act, to create the Illinois Joining  
13          Forces Foundation as a not-for-profit foundation. The  
14          Department shall file articles of incorporation as required  
15          under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986 to  
16          create the Foundation. The Foundation's Board of Directors  
17          shall be appointed as follows: one member appointed by the  
18          Governor; one member appointed by the President of the Senate;  
19          one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; one  
20          member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
21          Representatives; one member appointed by the Minority Leader of  
22          the House of Representatives; and all of the members of the  
23          Illinois Joining Forces Executive Committee, who shall be  
24          appointed by the Director of Veterans' Affairs. The Director of  
25          Veterans' Affairs and a designee chosen by the Director of  
26          Military Affairs who is a senior management official of the

1 Department of Military Affairs with the authority to make  
2 decisions on behalf of the agency shall serve as members of the  
3 Foundation's Board of Directors. Board of Director  
4 appointments shall be for 2-year terms. Vacancies shall be  
5 filled by the official who made the recommendation for the  
6 vacated appointment. No member of the Board of Directors may  
7 receive compensation for his or her services to the Foundation.  
8 Upon appointment, the Board of Directors, as members of a  
9 public entity, shall be represented and indemnified pursuant to  
10 the requirements of the State Employee Indemnification Act.

11 (d) The purposes of the Foundation are to: promote,  
12 support, assist, and sustain Illinois Joining Forces  
13 operations; solicit and accept grants and private donations and  
14 disburse them for the stated intent of the Foundation or the  
15 private donor; solicit and generate public and private funding  
16 and donations that assist in enhancing the Illinois Joining  
17 Forces mission, services, programs, and operations; and engage  
18 generally in other lawful endeavors consistent with the  
19 foregoing purposes. The foundation shall operate within the  
20 provisions of the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of  
21 1986.

22 (e) As soon as practicable after the Foundation is created,  
23 the Board of Directors shall meet, organize, and designate, by  
24 majority vote, a chairperson, a treasurer, a secretary, and any  
25 additional officers that may be needed to carry out the  
26 activities of the Foundation and shall adopt bylaws of the

1 Foundation. The Department of Veterans' Affairs, in  
2 consultation with the Department of Military Affairs, may adopt  
3 other rules deemed necessary to govern Foundation procedures.

4 (f) The Foundation may request and accept gifts, grants,  
5 donations, or bequests from the federal government or its  
6 agencies or officers or from any person, firm, or corporation,  
7 and may expend receipts on activities that it considers  
8 suitable to the performance of its duties under this Section  
9 and consistent with any requirement of the grant, gift,  
10 donation, or bequest. Funds collected by the Foundation shall  
11 be considered private funds and shall be held in an appropriate  
12 account outside of the State Treasury. Private funds collected  
13 by the Foundation are not subject to the Public Funds  
14 Investment Act. The treasurer of the Foundation shall be the  
15 custodian of all Foundation funds. The treasurer shall be  
16 required to obtain a fidelity or surety bond on satisfactory  
17 terms and in sufficient amounts to protect the interests of the  
18 Foundation, the cost of which shall be reimbursed by the  
19 Foundation. The Foundation and its officers shall be  
20 responsible for the approval of the recording of receipts,  
21 approval of payments, and the proper filing of required  
22 reports. The Foundation may be assisted in carrying out its  
23 functions by Department of Military Affairs and Department of  
24 Veterans' Affairs personnel. The Department of Military  
25 Affairs and the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide  
26 reasonable assistance to the Foundation to achieve the purposes

1 of the Foundation as determined by the respective Directors.  
2 The Foundation shall cooperate fully with the boards,  
3 commissions, agencies, departments, and institutions of the  
4 State. The funds held and made available by the Illinois  
5 Joining Forces Foundation shall be subject to financial and  
6 compliance audits in accordance with the Illinois State  
7 Auditing Act. The Foundation shall not have any power of  
8 eminent domain. The Foundation shall not construct or make any  
9 permanent improvements to any real property.

10 (g) The Foundation must provide a written notice to any  
11 entity providing a gift, grant, donation, or bequest to the  
12 Foundation that the Foundation is not subject to the provisions  
13 of the Public Funds Investment Act, which Act places  
14 limitations on the types of securities in which a public agency  
15 may invest public funds.

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
17 becoming law.".