

Senate Bill No. 137—Senators Woodhouse, Spearman, Parks, Hardy, Ford; Atkinson, Cancela, Cannizzaro, Denis, Farley, Manendo, Ratti and Segerblom

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to veterans; requiring certain state agencies and regulatory bodies to include certain questions on the forms used to collect data from a veteran; removing the prospective expiration of the Account to Assist Veterans Who Have Suffered Sexual Trauma and the duty of the Director of the Department of Veterans Services to develop plans and programs to assist veterans who have suffered sexual trauma; eliminating the requirement to transfer any remaining balance in the Account; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires certain state agencies and regulatory bodies to collect and report to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs certain data relating to veterans. (NRS 417.0194, 622.120) **Sections 1 and 2** of this bill require such a state agency or regulatory body to include the following questions on each form used to collect data from a veteran: (1) "Have you ever served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"; (2) "Have you ever been assigned to duty for a minimum of 6 continuous years in the National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"; and (3) "Have you ever served the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States in the capacity of a commissioned officer while on active duty in defense of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"

Existing law: (1) requires the Director and Deputy Director of the Department of Veterans Services to develop plans and programs to assist veterans who have suffered sexual trauma while on active duty or during military training; and (2) creates the Account to Assist Veterans Who Have Suffered Sexual Trauma in the State General Fund. (NRS 417.090, 417.119) These provisions prospectively expire on June 30, 2017, and any remaining balance in the Account on that date is required to be transferred to the Gift Account for Veterans. (Sections 4.7 and 5 of chapter 246, Statutes of Nevada 2015, p. 1168) **Section 3** of this bill repeals the prospective expiration of the requirement to develop plans and programs to assist veterans who have suffered sexual trauma and the Account, thereby maintaining both the requirement to develop plans and programs and the Account after June 30, 2017. Because of the continuation of the Account, **section 3** also eliminates the requirement to transfer any remaining balance in the Account on June 30, 2017.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 417.0194 is hereby amended to read as follows:

417.0194 1. Each state agency and regulatory body identified in subsections 2 to 15, inclusive, shall report, subject to any limitations or restrictions contained in any state or federal law governing the privacy or confidentiality of records, the data identified in subsections 2 to ~~15,~~ *16*, inclusive, as applicable, to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs. Each state agency and regulatory body shall submit such information to the Council not later than November 30 of each year and shall provide the information in aggregate and in digital form, and in a manner such that the data is capable of integration by the Council.

2. The Department of Administration shall provide:

(a) Descriptions of and the total amount of the grant dollars received for veteran-specific programs;

(b) The total number of veterans employed by each agency in the State; and

(c) The total number of veterans with service-connected disabilities who are seeking preferences through the Purchasing Division and the State Public Works Division of the Department of Administration pursuant to NRS 333.3366 and 338.13844.

3. The State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall provide the total number of veterans receiving:

(a) Expedited certification for the grade I certification examination for wastewater treatment plant operators based on their military experience; and

(b) Any discounted fees for access to or the use of state parks.

4. The Department of Corrections shall provide:

(a) An annual overview of the monthly population of inmates in this State who are veterans; and

(b) The success rates for any efforts developed by the Incarcerated Veterans Reintegration Council.

5. The Office of Economic Development shall provide an overview of the workforce that is available statewide of veterans, organized by O*NET-SOC code from the United States Department of Labor or the trade, job title, employment status, zip code, county, highest education level and driver's license class.



6. The Department of Education shall provide the distribution of dependents of service members enrolled in Nevada's public schools.

7. The Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation shall provide a summary of:

(a) The average number of veterans served by a veteran employment specialist of the Department per week;

(b) The average number of initial and continuing claims for benefits filed per week by veterans pursuant to NRS 612.455 to 612.530, inclusive;

(c) The average weekly benefit received by veterans receiving benefits pursuant to chapter 612 of NRS; and

(d) The average duration of a claim by claimants who are veterans receiving benefits pursuant to chapter 612 of NRS.

8. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide:

(a) The total number of veterans who have applied for and received certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-B, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic through the State Emergency Medical Systems program; and

(b) A report from the State Registrar of Vital Statistics setting forth the suicide mortality rate of veterans in this State.

9. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide:

(a) The total number of veterans who have declared themselves as a veteran and who applied for and received a commercial driver's license;

(b) The average monthly total of veteran license plates issued; and

(c) An overview of the data on veterans collected pursuant to NRS 483.292, 483.852 and 483.927.

10. The Adjutant General shall provide the total number of:

(a) Members of the Nevada National Guard using waivers for each semester and identifying which schools accepted the waivers;

(b) Members of the Nevada National Guard identified by Military Occupational Specialty and zip code; and

(c) Members of the Nevada National Guard employed under a grant from Beyond the Yellow Ribbon.

11. The Department of Public Safety shall provide the percentage of veterans in each graduating class of its academy for training peace officers.

12. The Department of Taxation shall provide the total number of veterans receiving tax exemptions pursuant to NRS 361.090, 361.091, 361.155, 371.103 and 371.104.



13. The Department of Wildlife shall provide the total number of:

(a) Veterans holding hunting or fishing licenses based on disability; and

(b) Service members holding hunting or fishing licenses who are residents of this State but are stationed outside this State.

14. The Commission on Postsecondary Education shall provide, by industry, the total number of schools in this State approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that are serving veterans.

15. Each regulatory body shall provide the total number of veterans and service members applying for licensure by the regulatory body.

16. *Each state agency and regulatory body identified in subsections 2 to 15, inclusive, shall ensure that the form used to collect data from a veteran, including, without limitation, a digital form posted on an Internet website, includes the following questions:*

(a) "Have you ever served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"

(b) "Have you ever been assigned to duty for a minimum of 6 continuous years in the National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"

(c) "Have you ever served the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States in the capacity of a commissioned officer while on active duty in defense of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?"

17. The Council shall, upon receiving the information submitted pursuant to this section, synthesize and compile the information, including any recommendations of the Council, and submit the information with the report submitted pursuant to subsection 8 of NRS 417.0195.

~~17~~ 18. As used in this section:

(a) "Regulatory body" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 622.060.

(b) "Service member" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 125C.0635.



Sec. 2. NRS 622.120 is hereby amended to read as follows:

622.120 1. If a regulatory body collects information regarding whether an applicant for a license is a veteran, the regulatory body shall prepare and submit to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs created by NRS 417.0191 an annual report which provides information on the number of veterans who have:

- (a) Applied for a license from the regulatory body.
- (b) Been issued a license by the regulatory body.
- (c) Renewed a license with the regulatory body.

2. *If a regulatory body collects information regarding whether an applicant for a license is a veteran, the form used by the regulatory body, including, without limitation, a digital form posted on an Internet website, shall include the following questions:*

(a) *“Have you ever served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?”*

(b) *“Have you ever been assigned to duty for a minimum of 6 continuous years in the National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?”*

(c) *“Have you ever served the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States in the capacity of a commissioned officer while on active duty in defense of the United States and separated from such service under conditions other than dishonorable?”*

3. As used in this section, “veteran” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005.

Sec. 3. Section 5 of chapter 246, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1168, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015 . ~~† and expires by limitation on June 30, 2017.†~~

Sec. 3.3. Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of this act, if collecting the information newly required by this act requires the revision of a paper form or an electronic form or changes to a computer system, an agency or other regulatory body is not required to collect the information until the earlier of 2 years after the effective date of this act or the date on which:

1. The inventory of paper forms in stock or ordered before the effective date of this act is used; or
2. The revised electronic form or required changes to the computer system are completed.



Sec. 3.5. The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

Sec. 4. Section 4.7 of chapter 246, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1168, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

