

PROPOSED

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2670

(Reference to House engrossed bill)

1 Page 2, strike lines 6 through 16, insert:

2 "Sec. 3. Section 41-603, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 41-603. Powers and duties

5 A. The department may act as guardian of an incapacitated veteran,
6 the incapacitated spouse of a veteran or minor children of a veteran, or as
7 conservator of the estate of a protected veteran or of the veteran's
8 incapacitated or surviving spouse or of the minor children of a veteran.
9 The department may act in all fiduciary matters, including as power of
10 attorney, trustee, custodian or representative payee of a veteran, spouse
11 of a veteran or minor child of a veteran. The department may act as the
12 personal representative of the estate of a deceased veteran, deceased
13 spouse of a veteran or deceased child of a veteran.

14 B. The department shall:

15 1. Assist veterans and their families and dependents in presenting,
16 providing and establishing claims, privileges, rights and benefits they may
17 have under federal, state or local law.

18 2. Inform veterans and their families and dependents and military
19 and civilian authorities about federal, state and local laws enacted to
20 benefit veterans and their families and dependents and members of the armed
21 forces.

22 3. Collect information relating to services and facilities available
23 to veterans.

24 4. Cooperate with all government and private agencies receiving
25 services for or benefits to veterans and their families and dependents.

1 5. Conduct administrative reviews and, if possible, correct abuses
2 or prevent exploitation of veterans and their families or dependents and
3 recommend corrective legislation.

4 6. Adopt rules deemed necessary to administer this article.

5 7. Enter into agreements with veterans' organizations in this state
6 holding a charter granted by the Congress of the United States for the
7 beneficial interest of veterans.

8 8. Verify and provide written confirmation to the person of
9 eligibility for special license plates issued pursuant to section 28-2475
10 by determining that all of the following are true:

11 (a) The person was a member of the United States armed forces on
12 December 7, 1941.

13 (b) The person received an honorable discharge from the United
14 States armed forces.

15 (c) The person was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours
16 of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the Island of Oahu
17 or offshore, at a distance not exceeding three miles.

18 9. Evaluate, supervise, approve and disapprove programs offered by
19 educational institutions and training establishments pursuant to United
20 States Code titles 10 and 38 and state rules, so that veterans and their
21 dependents may draw the educational allowance provided by federal law while
22 pursuing approved programs.

23 10. Establish an application process for the Arizona gold star
24 military medal, shall verify the eligibility of recipients and, if funding
25 is available, may award the Arizona gold star military medal to an eligible
26 individual.

27 C. The department may:

28 1. Acquire property for and construct and operate veterans' home
29 facilities in this state.

30 2. Acquire property for and establish and operate cemeteries for
31 veterans in this state.

1 3. Establish a training center to provide training to current or
2 potential employees and the veteran community. The department may
3 establish a fee for this training.

4 4. SUBJECT TO LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION AND AS AUTHORIZED BY THE
5 BURIAL EQUITY FOR GUARDS AND RESERVES ACT (P.L. 117-103; 136 STAT. 1109),
6 PROVIDE BURIAL SERVICES IN STATE VETERANS' CEMETERIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE
7 ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD AND THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES RESERVES IF THE
8 MEMBER'S SERVICE WAS TERMINATED UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS.

9 Sec. 4. Appropriation; department of veterans' services;
10 intent; exemption

11 A. The sum of \$15,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in
12 fiscal year 2023-2024 to the department of veterans' services for costs
13 associated with providing burial services in state veterans' cemeteries for
14 eligible members of the Arizona national guard and the United States armed
15 forces reserves.

16 B. The legislature intends that the appropriation made in subsection
17 A of this section be considered ongoing funding in future years.

18 C. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
19 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
20 to lapsing of appropriations."

21 Renumber to conform

22 Amend title to conform

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