Sixty-second Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1429

Introduced by

Representative Boehning

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code,

2 relating to county veterans' service officers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is

5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **37-14-18. County veterans' service officer - Appointment - Duties.**

7 The board of county commissioners of each county of thethis state of North Dakota shall 8 appoint, employ, and pay, on a full-time or part-time basis, an officer to be known as a county 9 veterans' service officer. The veterans' affairs commissioner may work directly with county 10 veterans' service officers. An individual may serve as a county veterans' service officer in more 11 than one county. The appointment must be made with the prior advice of the commissioner of 12 veterans' affairs, and in accordance with veterans' preference as provided in section 13 37-19.1-02. By August 1, 2011, allEach county veterans' service officersofficer must be 14 accredited by the national association of county veterans' service officers. It is the duty of 15 the The county veterans' service officer to shall become acquainted with the laws, both state and 16 federal, enacted for the benefit of returning servicemen and servicewomen to assist such-17 returning members of the armed forces in the presentation, proof, and establishment of 18 suchtheir claims, privileges, and rights as they have. It also is the duty of the. The county 19 veterans' service officer toshall actively cooperate with and to coordinate the activities of the 20 state and federal agencies within the county which the officer serves to facilitate their the 21 agencies' operation and ensure promptness in the solution of the problems concerned with the 22 reestablishment of returning servicemen and servicewomen in civilian pursuits. A county 23 veterans' service officer may not serve as a conservator for an individual who is receiving 24 benefits or services from the department of veterans' affairs or the United States department of

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- 1 veterans' affairs, except if the individual is the spouse or an immediate family member of the
- 2 officer, or unless the conservator is appointed by the county under chapter 11-21.