

SENATE BILL NO. 2299

Introduced by

Senators Andrist, Lyson, Nichols

Representatives Metcalf, Warnke

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 37-15-07 and 37-18.1-03 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the commandant of the veterans' home; and to declare an
3 emergency.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 37-15-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **37-15-07. Commandant of veterans' home - Appointment - Qualifications - Term -**
8 **Salary.** The governor shall appoint the commandant of the veterans' home after consultation
9 with the administrative committee on veterans' affairs. The commandant must be a bona fide
10 resident of this state. The commandant shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The
11 appointment, qualifications, term of office, and administrative committee on veterans' affairs
12 shall determine the salary of the commandant of the veterans' home must be as prescribed in
13 section 37-18.1-03.

14 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 37-18.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
15 amended and reenacted as follows:

16 **37-18.1-03. Powers and duties of committee - Creation of subcommittees.** The
17 committee is responsible for organization, policy, and general administration of all veterans'
18 affairs in the state of North Dakota. It has the following powers and duties:

19 1. The chairman and secretary of the committee, acting jointly, shall appoint from the
20 voting membership of the committee, two subcommittees: a subcommittee to be
21 responsible for supervision and government of the veterans' home, and a
22 subcommittee to be responsible for supervision and government of the department
23 of veterans' affairs. Once appointed, a subcommittee member shall continue to
24 serve as long as the member remains a voting member of the committee, unless

- 1 removed from the subcommittee by the committee chairman and secretary, acting
2 jointly. In no case may any one voting member serve on both subcommittees at
3 the same time, and each nominating organization listed in section 37-18.1-01 must
4 have at least one voting member nominated by it serving on each subcommittee.
5 From the membership of each subcommittee, a chairman will be selected by
6 majority vote to preside over it for the term of one year. No person may be
7 permitted to serve as chairman of the committee and as chairman of a
8 subcommittee simultaneously. A majority of the members of the subcommittee is
9 required for a quorum, and a majority of the members present voting in favor
10 thereof is required for any action.
- 11 2. The committee shall detail the specific powers and duties of each subcommittee
12 relating to supervision, government, and implementation of programs or services
13 provided by the veterans' home and the department of veterans' affairs.
- 14 3. The committee shall appoint the ~~commandant of the veterans' home and the~~
15 commissioner of the department of veterans' affairs. ~~Individuals appointed to these~~
16 ~~positions~~ The commissioner must be a bona fide residents resident of the state,
17 and must qualify as a veteran as defined in section 37-01-40. ~~Their terms~~ The
18 term of office ~~are for~~ is two years, commencing on July 1, 1971, ~~and on every~~
19 ~~second anniversary thereof~~ first of an odd-numbered year. The committee shall
20 determine the salaries paid to the commandant of the veterans' home and the
21 commissioner of the department of veterans' affairs within the limits of legislative
22 appropriation. The commandant of the veterans' home and the commissioner of
23 veterans' affairs shall serve as the executive secretary for their respective
24 subcommittees. The commandant and the commissioner have no vote in the
25 affairs of the subcommittees.
- 26 4. The committee shall, under recommendation from each of its subcommittees,
27 present any matters needing attention and action to the appropriate board,
28 commission, agency, or department of the state, and the North Dakota veterans'
29 coordinating council.
- 30 5. The committee shall assure compliance with applicable federal and state laws in
31 the administration of both the department of veterans' affairs and the North Dakota

1 veterans' home and shall exercise its responsibilities in all things necessary to
2 carry out the provisions of this chapter in regard to organization, policy, and
3 general administration of the agencies served and involved in the conduct of
4 veterans' affairs.

5 **SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.