

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1128**

Introduced by

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

(At the request of the Department of Veterans' Affairs)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to appointment of a county veterans' service officer.

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.** The board of  
7 county commissioners of each county of the state of North Dakota ~~may~~ shall appoint, employ,  
8 and pay, on a full-time or part-time basis, an officer to be known as a county veterans' service  
9 officer. ~~Such~~ An individual may serve as a county veterans' service officer in more than one  
10 county. The appointment must be made with the prior advice of the commissioner of veterans'  
11 affairs, and in accordance with veterans' preference as provided in section 37-19.1-02. It is the  
12 duty of ~~such~~ the county veterans' service officer to become acquainted with the laws, both state  
13 and federal, enacted for the benefit of returning servicemen and servicewomen to assist such  
14 returning members of the armed forces in the presentation, proof, and establishment of such  
15 claims, privileges, and rights as they have. It also is the duty of the county veterans' service  
16 officer, under the supervision of the state commissioner of veterans' affairs, to actively  
17 cooperate with and to coordinate the activities of the state and federal agencies within the  
18 county which the officer serves to facilitate their operation and ensure promptness in the  
19 solution of the problems concerned with the reestablishment of returning servicemen and  
20 servicewomen in civilian pursuits.