

Introduced by

Senator Dever

Representative Fehr

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 the 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 department of veterans' affairs ~~commissioner~~ may work directly  
10 with county veterans' service officers. An individual may serve as a county veterans' service  
11 officer in more than one county. The appointment must be ~~made~~maintained with the ~~prior~~  
12 ~~advice~~concurrence of the commissioner of veterans' affairs, and in accordance with veterans'  
13 preference as provided in section 37-19.1-02. ~~By August 1, 2011, all~~ A county veterans' service  
14 ~~officers~~officer must be accredited by the national association of county veterans' service  
15 ~~officers~~and maintain accreditation with an organization approved by the United States  
16 department of veterans' affairs, beginning within twelve months of the accreditation requirement  
17 applying to a county veterans' service officer. It is the duty of the county veterans' service officer  
18 to become acquainted with the laws, both state and federal, enacted for the benefit of returning  
19 servicemen and servicewomen to assist such returning members of the armed forces in the  
20 presentation, proof, and establishment of such claims, privileges, and rights as they have. It  
21 also is the duty of the county veterans' service officer to actively cooperate with and to  
22 coordinate the activities of the state and federal agencies within the county which the officer  
23 serves to facilitate their operation and ensure promptness in the solution of the problems  
24 concerned with the reestablishment of returning servicemen and servicewomen in civilian

Sixty-fourth  
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- 1 pursuits. A county veterans' service officer may not serve as a conservator for an individual who
- 2 is receiving benefits or services from the department of veterans' affairs or the United States
- 3 department of veterans' affairs, except if the individual is the spouse or an immediate family
- 4 member of the officer.