

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL 1134

6 By: Simpson of the Senate

7 and

8 Hardin (Tommy) of the House

9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to veterans; amending 72 O.S. 2011,
11 Section 63.2, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter
12 262, O.S.L. 2014 (72 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 63.2),
13 which relates to the Oklahoma Veterans Commission;
14 modifying membership criteria of Commission; and
15 providing an effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 2011, Section 63.2, as
18 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 262, O.S.L. 2014 (72 O.S. Supp.
19 2019, Section 63.2), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 63.2. The Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall consist of
21 nine (9) members. At least eight ~~(8)~~ members shall be honorably
22 discharged veterans; provided, ~~three~~ one of the members shall be
23 ~~veterans~~ a veteran of the Vietnam Conflict and ~~one~~ two shall be a
24 ~~veteran~~ veterans of the Persian Gulf Wars. The members shall be
selected in the following manner: The state executive board or

1 committees of the veterans' organizations named in this section
2 shall each submit to the Governor ~~of Oklahoma~~ a list of five ~~(5)~~
3 persons qualified to serve as members of the Oklahoma Veterans
4 Commission. The list shall be submitted to the Governor not later
5 than three (3) months prior to the expiration of the terms of office
6 of the members of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission. The Governor
7 shall name one member from each of the following Veterans' groups:
8 the American Legion; the Veterans of Foreign ~~wars~~ Wars; the Disabled
9 American Veterans; the Paralyzed Veterans of America; the Military
10 Order of the Purple Heart; and the National Guard Association of
11 Oklahoma. The members representing the American Legion and the
12 Paralyzed Veterans of America shall take office no later than July
13 1, 2015. The members representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars and
14 the Military Order of the Purple Heart shall take office no later
15 than July 1, 2016. The members representing the Disabled American
16 Veterans and the ~~Oklahoma~~ National Guard Association of Oklahoma
17 shall take office no later than July 1, 2017. The Governor shall
18 also appoint three members at large, one of whom may be a nonveteran
19 and shall have a family member residing in a state veteran center,
20 one to be appointed 2015, one to be appointed in 2016, and one to be
21 appointed in 2017.

22 The executive officer of each veterans' organization operating
23 within ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state shall, on or before January
24 1 of the year in which the organization's appointee's term expires,

1 submit to the Secretary of State, the Governor, the President Pro
2 Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives a copy of the performance audit and the financial
4 audit of the organization for the immediately preceding fiscal year
5 of the organization. Such audits shall be conducted in accordance
6 with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and
7 shall clearly show the total paid membership of the organization and
8 shall be certified to by a certified public accountant. Failure to
9 comply with this section shall render the organization ineligible to
10 submit a nominee to the Governor. The members of the Commission
11 shall be appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the
12 Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. When a
13 vacancy on the Oklahoma Veterans Commission occurs, the organization
14 which is represented by the vacant position shall submit a list of
15 five ~~(5)~~ names to the Governor. The Governor shall choose a
16 replacement from that list. Except for persons presently serving on
17 the Oklahoma Veterans Commission on the effective date of this act
18 or persons presently serving on the Oklahoma Veterans Commission on
19 the effective date of this act who are subsequently reappointed to
20 succeed themselves for additional terms of office, no person shall
21 be appointed by the Governor who is related by affinity or
22 consanguinity within the third degree to any person employed by the
23 Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.
24

1 Before any member appointed as provided herein shall enter upon
2 his or her duties as a member of the Commission, he or she shall
3 take and subscribe to the oath of office as required by the
4 Constitution of this state.

5 Present members of the Commission shall continue in office until
6 the expiration of their terms and until their successors are
7 appointed and enter upon the duties of their offices. Appointments
8 shall be made for a three-year period. Any vacancy on the
9 Commission resulting from any cause shall be filled by appointment
10 by the Governor for the remainder of the term as provided in this
11 section.

12 No member of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall be employed
13 by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs during the time of
14 his or her service on the Oklahoma Veterans Commission nor shall any
15 person who served as a member of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission be
16 employed by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs subsequent
17 to his or her service on the Commission for a period of two (2)
18 years.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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