

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 1041

By: Burns

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to soldiers and sailors; amending Section 1, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2017, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 387, O.S.L. 2017 (72 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 421), which relates to a veterans registry; providing registry name; modifying required veteran information; modifying definition; directing the State Commissioner of Health to transmit certain list and information to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs; directing the Department to utilize list and information to maintain certain registry; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2017, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 387, O.S.L. 2017 (72 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 421), is amended to read as follows:

Section 421. A. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall create and maintain a registry of all veterans in this state by January 1, 2020. The registry shall be styled the "Oklahoma Veterans Registry" and shall include the following information regarding the veteran:

1. Name;

2. Military ~~ranking~~ rank and branch of service;

3. Dates of service;

4. ~~Documentation~~ Percentage of one hundred percent (100%)
~~service-disability~~ service-connected disability, if applicable; and

5. Date of death and place of ~~burial~~ interment, if applicable;
and

6. Name of spouse, if applicable.

B. As a component of the veterans registry created pursuant to subsection A of this section, the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall designate those veterans within the registry as one hundred percent (100%) service-disabled Oklahoma veterans, if applicable. The registry designation shall also be maintained as a separate list within the registry for all one hundred percent (100%) service-disabled Oklahoma veterans. The Department shall be responsible for verification of all information provided through the registry and shall verify veteran service disability status at least once every four (4) years.

C. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall promulgate rules for implementing the provisions of this section.

D. For purposes of this section, "veteran" ~~means a person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States who was discharged or released with an honorable discharge. For those veterans with a designation of one hundred percent (100%) service-disabled, the veteran shall have been assigned a disability~~

1 ~~percentage of one hundred percent (100%) by the United States~~
2 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs~~ shall have the same meaning as
3 specified in Section 2 of this title.

4 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 421A of Title 72, unless there
6 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

7 The State Commissioner of Health shall authorize the regular
8 transmission of a list to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
9 Affairs of all registered deaths of residents of this state that
10 have occurred within the state and who are indicated to be a veteran
11 on the death record. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs
12 shall use the transmitted list to identify Oklahoma veterans, as
13 defined in Section 2 of Title 72 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for
14 purposes of populating, updating and maintaining the veterans
15 registry established in Section 421 of Title 72 of the Oklahoma
16 Statutes. The Social Security number of an individual veteran shall
17 not be released as a part of the registry. The State Health
18 Department shall transmit to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
19 Affairs the following:

- 20 1. Veteran's name;
- 21 2. Social Security number;
- 22 3. Date of death; and
- 23 4. Place of interment, if applicable.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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