

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

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H. B. No. 52

Representatives Holmes, G., Perales

**Cosponsors: Representatives Becker, Brown, Riedel, O'Brien, Lanese, Crawley,
Miller, A.**

A BILL

To amend section 5901.01 and to enact section 1
5901.40 of the Revised Code to require certain 2
entities to inform veterans about health care 3
benefits available to veterans. 4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 5901.01 be amended and section 5
5901.40 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 5901.01. As used in ~~sections 5901.01 to 5901.37 of~~ 7
~~the Revised Code~~ this chapter: 8

(A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 9
section, "veteran" means either of the following: 10

(1) A former member of the armed forces of the United 11
States who served on active military duty and received an 12
honorable discharge or honorable separation, a member of the 13
armed forces of the United States who died on active military 14
duty, or a member of the armed forces of the United States 15
missing in action more than ninety days; 16

(2) A member of the United States merchant marine to whom 17
either of the following applies: 18

(a) The member has an honorable report of separation from 19
the active duty military service, form DD214 or DD215. 20

(b) The member served in the United States merchant marine 21
between December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946, and died on 22
active duty while serving in a war zone during that period of 23
service. 24

(B) As used in section 5901.08 and other sections of the 25
Revised Code with regard to applications for financial 26
assistance under sections 5901.02 to 5901.15 of the Revised 27
Code, "veteran" means either of the following: 28

(1) A person who served in the armed forces of the United 29
States on active military duty and was discharged from the 30
service under honorable conditions, and who either served on 31
active duty for reasons other than training or, while serving on 32
active duty for training, incurred a disability recognized by 33
the department of veterans affairs or department of defense as 34
service-connected; 35

(2) A person who served in the United States merchant 36
marine, who either served on active duty for reasons other than 37
training or, while serving on active duty for training, incurred 38
a disability recognized by the department of veterans affairs or 39
department of defense as service-connected, and to whom either 40
of the following applies: 41

(a) The person has an honorable report of separation from 42
the active duty military service, form DD214 or DD215. 43

(b) The person served in the United States merchant marine 44
between December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946, and died on 45

active duty while serving in a war zone during that period of service. 46
47

(C) "Veterans plot" means a plot of land in any cemetery, 48
set apart to be exclusively used for interring the remains of 49
deceased veterans. 50

(D) "United States merchant marine" includes the United 51
States army transport service and the United States naval 52
transport service. 53

Sec. 5901.40. (A) As used in this section: 54

(1) "Home health agency" has the same meaning as in 55
section 3701.881 of the Revised Code. 56

(2) "Hospital" has the same meaning as in section 3727.01 57
of the Revised Code. 58

(3) "Nursing home" has the same meaning as in section 59
3721.01 of the Revised Code, except that it does not include a 60
nursing home that participates in the veteran community 61
partnerships program administered by the United States 62
department of veterans affairs. 63

(4) "Representative of the office of the state long-term 64
care ombudsman program" has the same meaning as in section 65
173.14 of the Revised Code. 66

(5) "Residential care facility" has the same meaning as in 67
section 3721.01 of the Revised Code. 68

(B) Each entity specified in division (C) of this section 69
shall, at the time specified in that division, do both of the 70
following for veterans: 71

(1) Inform veterans that they may be eligible for health 72

care benefits through the United States department of veterans 73
affairs, including benefits regarding long-term care; 74

(2) Offer to assist veterans in contacting a veterans 75
service commission that can assist them in accessing the health 76
care benefits for which they may be eligible and, if a veteran 77
requests that assistance, assist the veteran in contacting a 78
veterans service commission. 79

(C) Division (B) of this section applies to all of the 80
following: 81

(1) A hospital when it discharges an inpatient who the 82
hospital knows is a veteran; 83

(2) A nursing home or residential care facility when it 84
admits as a resident an individual who the home or facility 85
knows is a veteran; 86

(3) A home health agency when it begins providing home 87
health services to an individual who the agency knows is a 88
veteran; 89

(4) A representative of the office of the state long-term 90
care ombudsman program when the representative begins providing 91
ombudsman services to an individual who the representative knows 92
is a veteran. 93

Section 2. That existing section 5901.01 of the Revised 94
Code is hereby repealed. 95