

As Passed by the House

**122nd General Assembly
Regular Session
1997-1998**

Am. H. B. No. 754

**Representatives Brading, Mottley, Clancy, Carey, Schuler, Grendell, Cates,
Netzley, Weston, Thomas, Terwilleger, Pringle, Opfer, Roman, Garcia, Evans,
Buchy, Britton, Taylor, Padgett, Willamowski, Reid, Sulzer, Healy, Brady,
Myers, Core, Ogg, Vesper, Jordan, Logan, Johnson, Harris, Metzger, Haines,
Mottl, Hodges, Ford, Bender, Wachtmann, Householder, Allen, Jolivette,
O'Brien, Womer Benjamin, Sutton, Damschroder, Batchelder, Wilson,
Salerno, Mead, Verich**

A B I L L

To enact section 5907.022 of the Revised Code to 1
create the Committee to Establish the Veterans' 2
Home Network to study the establishment of a 3
network of facilities to expand the delivery of 4
certain services to veterans, and to authorize the 5
Board of Trustees of the Ohio Veterans' Home to 6
enter into certain agreements to provide those 7
services. 8

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

Section 1. That section 5907.022 of the Revised Code be 9
enacted to read as follows: 10

Sec. 5907.022. The board of trustees of the Ohio veterans' 11
home may do either of the following to expand nursing home care 12
and domiciliary services to veterans at sites other than the Ohio 13
veterans' home and the Robert T. Secrest nursing home: 14

(A) Enter into contracts or agreements, including agreements for the acceptance of grants, to construct, lease, purchase, or otherwise acquire real property or facilities to establish a network of facilities; 15
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(B) Enter into contracts with private providers. 19

Section 2. There is hereby created the Committee to Establish 20
the Veterans' Home Network. The Committee shall consist of the 21
following seven members: the chairperson of the House of 22
Representatives Veterans Affairs Committee, the ranking minority 23
member of the House of Representatives Veterans Affairs Committee, 24
the chairperson of the Senate State and Local Government and 25
Veterans Affairs Committee, the ranking minority member of the 26
Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Affairs Committee, 27
the Director of the Veterans Integrated Service Network Number 10 28
of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the 29
director's designee, the Director of the Governor's Office of 30
Veterans Affairs or the director's designee, and the 31
Superintendent of the Ohio Veterans' Home or the superintendent's 32
designee. Each member shall hold office from the date of 33
appointment through July 31, 1999. Vacancies on the committee 34
shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments. The 35
chairperson of the House of Representatives Veterans Affairs 36
Committee shall convene the first organizational meeting of the 37
committee created by this section, no later than thirty days after 38
the effective date of this section. At that meeting, the 39
chairperson of the House of Representatives Veterans Affairs 40
Committee shall call for a vote to select a chairperson and any 41
other officers of the committee created by this section that the 42
committee considers appropriate. 43

The committee shall conduct a thorough study to assess the 44
needs of veterans for nursing home care and domiciliary services 45

at sites in addition to the Ohio Veterans' Home and the Robert T. Secrest Nursing Home in Sandusky. The committee shall explore the possibility of establishing a network of facilities to expand the delivery of nursing home care and domiciliary services at the sites identified by the Veterans' Care Committee created by Am. H.B. 581 of the 121st General Assembly. The committee created by this section shall develop guidelines to prioritize potential network sites according to the ability of each site to provide care and services to the greatest number of veterans with the most efficient use of funds. The committee also shall examine the possibility of providing nursing home care and domiciliary services to veterans by contract with private providers. The committee shall prepare and, on or before July 31, 1999, submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Veterans' Home, a report of its findings and recommendations for establishing a network of facilities and contracting with private providers to expand the delivery of nursing home care and domiciliary services to veterans at additional sites throughout the state.

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The members of the committee shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for travel, lodging, and meal expenses incurred in fulfilling their duties as members of the committee. Reimbursement for expenses shall be at the rates established by the Director of Budget and Management in accordance with section 126.31 of the Revised Code.

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The committee shall cease to exist on August 1, 1999.

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Section 3. In establishing a network of facilities to expand the delivery of nursing home care and domiciliary services to veterans at additional sites throughout the state as authorized by division (A) of section 5907.022 of the Revised Code as enacted by

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this act, the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Veterans' Home shall 77
consider the recommendations of the Committee to Establish the 78
Veterans' Home Network, created by this act. 79

Section 4. Sections 1 and 3 of this act shall take effect 80
August 1, 1999. 81