

**As Reported by the Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee**

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**Representatives Wiggam, Miller, A.**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Lipps, Seitz, Lampton, Ghanbari, Young, T.,  
Weinstein, Crawley, Fowler Arthur, Gross, Sheehy, Abrams, Bird, Boyd, Brown,  
Carruthers, Crossman, Galonski, Householder, Lanese, Leland, Lepore-Hagan,  
Lightbody, Liston, Miller, J., O'Brien, Patton, Plummer, Ray, Robinson, Russo,  
Smith, K., Smith, M., Sobecki, Troy, Speaker Cupp**

**Senators Johnson, Fedor**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 317.24 and 317.241 of the Revised 1  
Code to allow a person who was discharged from 2  
the United States Public Health Service or the 3  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 4  
to obtain an Ohio veterans identification card. 5

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

**Section 1.** That sections 317.24 and 317.241 of the Revised 6  
Code be amended to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 317.24.** (A) As used in this section: 8

(1) "Authorized party" means any of the following: 9

(a) The person who is the subject of the record of 10  
discharge; 11

(b) A county veterans service officer who is certified by 12  
the department of veterans services; 13

(c) An attorney-in-fact, agent, or other representative of the person who is the subject of the record of discharge, if authorized to inspect or copy the record of discharge by that person in a power of attorney or other document;

(d) A person authorized, for good cause shown, by a court of record to inspect or copy the record of discharge;

(e) If the person who is the subject of the record of discharge is deceased, the executor or administrator, or an heir, legatee, or devisee, of the person's estate or a funeral director who is to perform the funeral for the deceased person.

(2) "Separation code" or "separation program number" means the coded number or numbers used to specify the reasons for a person's separation from active duty, as contained in one of the following:

(a) Regarding a separation code, as contained in line 23 or 26 of a veteran's discharge paper, United States department of defense form DD-214;

(b) Regarding a separation program number, as contained in line 9(c) or line 11(c) of a veteran's discharge paper, under prior versions of United States department of defense form DD-214.

(3) "Service-related document" means any United States department of defense form DD-215 or DD-220, or any National Guard Bureau form NGB-22 or NGB-22A.

(4) "Armed forces of the United States" means the army, navy, air force, marine corps, space force, coast guard, the national guard of any state, or any other reserve components of those forces.

(5) "Uniformed services" means the armed forces of the 42  
United States; the commissioned corps of the national oceanic 43  
and atmospheric administration; the commissioned corps of the 44  
public health service; or any reserve components of those 45  
forces; and such other service as may be designated by congress. 46

(B) (1) Upon request of any discharged member of the ~~armed-~~ 47  
~~forces of the United States~~ uniformed services and presentation 48  
of the member's discharge, the county recorder shall record the 49  
discharge in a book to be furnished by the board of county 50  
commissioners for that purpose. There shall be no fee for the 51  
recording. The record of discharge, or a certified copy of the 52  
record, shall be received in evidence in all cases where the 53  
original discharge would be received. 54

(2) (a) A discharge recorded under division (B) (1) or (D) 55  
of this section is not a public record under section 149.43 of 56  
the Revised Code for a period of seventy-five years after the 57  
date of the recording. During that period, the county recorder's 58  
office shall make the record of discharge available only to an 59  
authorized party or to a person other than an authorized party 60  
as provided by division (B) (2) (b) of this section. Except as 61  
provided in section 317.27 of the Revised Code, the authorized 62  
party shall pay the reasonable costs of copying the record of 63  
discharge. 64

(b) A person other than an authorized party may request to 65  
view or receive a copy of a discharge record recorded under 66  
division (B) (1) or (D) of this section. Upon such a person's 67  
request, the county recorder's office shall provide a copy of 68  
the discharged record to the person that shall be redacted to 69  
contain only the name, rank, date of birth, date of discharge, 70  
and type of discharge of the person who is the subject of the 71

discharge record. Except as provided in section 317.27 of the Revised Code, a person other than an authorized party shall pay the reasonable costs of copying the record of discharge.

(3) A county veterans service officer, who is an authorized party, may request to receive, from a county recorder's office, a record of discharge if the veterans service officer has a need for access to the record of discharge for the purpose of supporting a veteran's claim for benefits, and the county recorder's office shall make the record available to the county veterans service officer.

(C) Upon application by a person whose discharge has been recorded pursuant to this section, the county recorder shall, without fee, expunge the person's record of discharge, expunge the person's separation program number or separation code from the person's record of discharge and from any of the person's other service-related documents that have been recorded, or expunge the person's social security number from the person's record of discharge and from any of the person's other service-related documents that have been recorded. The application shall be in the following form:

"APPLICATION FOR EXPUNGEMENT

OF DISCHARGE RECORD OR OTHER INFORMATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Applicant), the undersigned, hereby request the County Recorder of the County of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of County), state of Ohio, to expunge my \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert Record of Discharge, Separation Program Number or Separation Code from my Record of Discharge and other service-related documents, or Social Security Number from my Record of Discharge and other service-related documents).

Dated this _____ day of _____, _____	101
_____	102
(Signature of Applicant)	103
Sworn to and subscribed before me by _____ (Name of	104
Applicant) on _____, _____	105
_____	106
Notary Public	107
My commission expires _____, _____"	108
(D) Upon the request of any person who served during World	109
War I or World War II as a member of any armed force of the	110
government of Poland or Czechoslovakia and participated while so	111
serving in armed conflict with an enemy of the United States and	112
who has been a citizen of the United States for at least ten	113
years, and the presentation of the person's discharge, the	114
county recorder shall record the person's discharge in a book to	115
be furnished by the board of county commissioners for that	116
purpose. No fee shall be charged for the recording. The record,	117
or a certified copy of it, shall be received in evidence in all	118
cases where the original would be received.	119
<b>Sec. 317.241.</b> (A) The board of county commissioners may by	120
resolution allow the county recorder or county veterans service	121
office to issue Ohio veterans identification cards to	122
individuals who have met the following requirements:	123
(1) Presented the individual's <del>armed forces</del> <u>uniformed</u>	124
<u>services</u> discharge record for recording in the record of	125
discharges in the office of the county recorder;	126
(2) Provided, while appearing in person at a county	127

recorder's office or county veterans service office, two forms 128  
of current and valid identification, at least one of which bears 129  
a photograph of the individual; 130

(3) Paid a fee, if a fee has been established by the 131  
county. 132

A board of county commissioners may, by resolution, 133  
authorize a county recorder or county veterans service office to 134  
collect a fee from individuals requesting a veterans 135  
identification card. The fee may not exceed two dollars. 136

If a county veterans service office maintains access to 137  
the state and federal military service verification system, the 138  
county veterans service office or county recorder, by consulting 139  
the county veterans service office, shall confirm before issuing 140  
a veterans identification card that the individual's ~~armed-~~ 141  
~~forces-uniformed services~~ discharge record exists in the 142  
system's database and does not indicate the individual was 143  
dishonorably discharged. 144

(B) A county recorder or county veterans service office 145  
who has in operation, before ~~the effective date of this section-~~ 146  
September 8, 2016, a program to issue veterans identification 147  
cards may continue to issue veterans identification cards 148  
without a resolution of the board of county commissioners, if 149  
the county recorder or county veterans service office conforms 150  
the program, as necessary, so that it otherwise is in compliance 151  
with this section. 152

(C) An Ohio veterans identification card expires ten years 153  
after the date of issuance. A veteran whose identification card 154  
has expired may apply to a county recorder or county veterans 155  
service office for the issuance of a new identification card, 156

and a veteran whose current card has been lost or damaged may 157  
apply to a county recorder or county veterans service office for 158  
a replacement identification card, by meeting the requirements 159  
described in this section. 160

(D) The following documents are valid forms of 161  
identification for the purposes of this section: 162

(1) An original or a certified birth certificate; 163

(2) An identification card issued by the United States 164  
department of veterans affairs; 165

(3) A United States military identification card; 166

(4) A social security card; 167

(5) A license or permit to carry a concealed weapon issued 168  
by this state or any other state; 169

(6) A motor vehicle operator's license issued by this 170  
state or any other state that bears a photograph of the 171  
licensee; 172

(7) An identification card issued by this state or any 173  
other state that bears a photograph of the individual 174  
identified; 175

(8) A valid passport that bears a photograph of the 176  
individual to whom the passport was issued; 177

(9) A United States ~~armed forces~~ uniformed services 178  
discharge record. 179

(E) Fees collected under this section shall be deposited 180  
into the county treasury to the credit of the county general 181  
fund. 182

(F) (1) An Ohio veterans identification card shall conform 183

to the material and design standards established by the Ohio 184  
recorders association in consultation with the county 185  
commissioners' association of Ohio and Ohio state association of 186  
county veterans service officers. All issuing entities shall 187  
follow the design standards established pursuant to ~~Sec.~~section 188  
317.242 of the Revised Code. 189

(2) An applicant for an Ohio veterans identification card 190  
shall be photographed in color at the time the application for 191  
the card is made. A county recorder or county veterans service 192  
office that issues identification cards shall provide the 193  
necessary equipment to take a color photograph of an applicant 194  
for an Ohio veterans identification card. Photographic records 195  
of a county recorder's office or county veterans service office 196  
that are obtained under this section are the property of the 197  
county recorder's office or county veterans service office. 198

(G) All application materials, including applications, 199  
photographs, documents, or other information submitted with an 200  
application or obtained by a county recorder or county veterans 201  
service office are not public records under section 149.43 of 202  
the Revised Code. The county recorder or county veterans service 203  
office may only release application materials as follows: 204

(1) To a state, local, or federal governmental agency for 205  
criminal justice purposes or to a court for any purpose arising 206  
in the court; 207

(2) To the department of veterans services, but only if 208  
the veteran gives prior signed written approval; 209

(3) To a county veterans service commission, but only if 210  
the veteran gives prior signed written approval. 211

A governmental agency, a court, the department of veterans 212

services, or a county veterans service commission to which 213  
application materials have been released shall maintain the 214  
confidentiality of those materials. 215

(H) A county recorder or county veterans service office 216  
may contract with any other political subdivision of the state 217  
for Ohio veterans identification card production services. 218

(I) A county recorder or county veterans service office 219  
may accept donations, in the form of supplies and equipment, to 220  
be used in the production of Ohio veterans identification cards. 221

(J) For purposes of this section, "uniformed services" has 222  
the meaning defined in section 317.24 of the Revised Code. 223

**Section 2.** That existing sections 317.24 and 317.241 of 224  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 225