

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
**Act 192 of 1953**

AN ACT to create a county department of veterans' affairs in certain counties, and to prescribe its powers and duties; and to transfer the powers and duties of the soldiers' relief commission in such counties.

**History:** 1953, Act 192, Eff. Oct. 2, 1953.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**35.621 County department of veterans' affairs; creation; administration; committee; appointment, qualifications, and terms of members; vacancies.**

Sec. 1. The county board of commissioners may create a county department of veterans' affairs. The department shall be under the administration of a committee of 3 to 5 veterans, appointed by the county board of commissioners, who shall be residents of the county and who have served honorably on active duty in the United States armed forces or who served actively in the United States armed forces in a war or received an armed forces campaign or service medal, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the posts of each chartered veterans' organization within the county. Each member appointed shall have demonstrated knowledge, skills, and experience in public service, business, or finance. If an opening on a committee of veterans occurs, the county board of commissioners shall provide notice of that opening to 1 or more newspapers within the county and to veteran service organizations within the county. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law of this state to the contrary, a member of the board of commissioners of a county shall be eligible for appointment. Members appointed by the board of commissioners shall be appointed for a term of 4 years each. However, the terms for members first appointed shall be staggered so that not more than 2 vacancies are scheduled to occur in a single year. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments for the unexpired terms.

**History:** 1953, Act 192, Eff. Oct. 2, 1953;—Am. 1958, Act 156, Eff. Sept. 13, 1958;—Am. 1968, Act 204, Imd. Eff. June 24, 1968;—Am. 1973, Act 153, Imd. Eff. Dec. 6, 1973;—Am. 1996, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Mar. 5, 1996;—Am. 2004, Act 11, Imd. Eff. Feb. 26, 2004;—Am. 2012, Act 235, Imd. Eff. June 29, 2012.

**35.622 Soldiers' relief commission; abolition, transfer of powers and duties to county department of veterans' affairs.**

Sec. 2. In any county in which the board of supervisors adopts the provisions of this act, section 2 of the act creating the soldiers' relief commission created under the provisions of Act No. 214 of the Public Acts of 1899, as amended, being section 35.22 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, is hereby declared to be inoperative and the powers and duties of commission are hereby transferred to the county department of veterans' affairs created under the provisions of this act, and wherever soldiers' relief commission is used in Act No. 214 of the Public Acts of 1899, as amended, and Act No. 235 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended, being sections 35.801 to 35.804 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, it shall mean the county department of veterans' affairs herein created.

**History:** 1953, Act 192, Eff. Oct. 2, 1953;—Am. 1958, Act 156, Eff. Sept. 13, 1958.

**35.623 Administrative committee of county department; selection of officers, expenses; veterans' service officer, appointment; offices.**

Sec. 3. The committee shall select a chairman and a secretary. The committee is authorized to incur such expense as shall be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this act within the budget set up by the board of supervisors. The members of the committee shall be entitled to receive the same per diem and mileage in attending meetings as members of the board of supervisors. The committee shall appoint a veterans' service officer and such other employees as shall be necessary from time to time to carry out the provisions of this act. In the selection of the veterans' service officer hereby authorized, the committee shall consult with and request the assistance of any association or council of organized veterans in such county, and any recommendation from such association or council of veterans as to the personnel to be appointed by said committee under the provisions of this act, while not binding on said committee, shall be given the greatest consideration. The board of supervisors shall furnish, equip and maintain reasonably adequate office facilities for the county department of veterans' affairs.

**History:** 1953, Act 192, Eff. Oct. 2, 1953.

**35.624 County department; powers and duties.**

Sec. 4. The county department of veterans' affairs shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as

shall be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this act and any and all other benefits to which veterans may be entitled as prescribed by the county department of veterans' affairs.

**History:** 1953, Act 192, Eff. Oct. 2, 1953.

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