

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is
5 amended by changing Sections 2.01 and 2.04 and by adding
6 Section 2.01b as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2805/2.01) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 67.01)

8 Sec. 2.01. Veterans Home admissions.

9 (a) Any honorably discharged veteran is entitled to
10 admission to an Illinois Veterans Home if the applicant meets
11 the requirements of this Section.

12 (b) The veteran must:

13 (1) have served in the armed forces of the United
14 States at least 1 day in World War II, the Korean Conflict,
15 the Viet Nam Campaign, or the Persian Gulf Conflict between
16 the dates recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans
17 Affairs or between any other present or future dates
18 recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as a
19 war period, or have served in a hostile fire environment
20 and has been awarded a campaign or expeditionary medal
21 signifying his or her service, for purposes of eligibility
22 for domiciliary or nursing home care;

23 (2) have served and been honorably discharged or

1 retired from the armed forces of the United States for a
2 service connected disability or injury, for purposes of
3 eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home care;

4 (3) have served as an enlisted person at least 90 days
5 on active duty in the armed forces of the United States,
6 excluding service on active duty for training purposes
7 only, and entered active duty before September 8, 1980, for
8 purposes of eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home
9 care;

10 (4) have served as an officer at least 90 days on
11 active duty in the armed forces of the United States,
12 excluding service on active duty for training purposes
13 only, and entered active duty before October 17, 1981, for
14 purposes of eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home
15 care;

16 (5) have served on active duty in the armed forces of
17 the United States for 24 months of continuous service or
18 more, excluding active duty for training purposes only, and
19 enlisted after September 7, 1980, for purposes of
20 eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home care;

21 (6) have served as a reservist in the armed forces of
22 the United States or the National Guard and the service
23 included being called to federal active duty, excluding
24 service on active duty for training purposes only, and who
25 completed the term, for purposes of eligibility for
26 domiciliary or nursing home care;

1 (7) have been discharged for reasons of hardship or
2 released from active duty due to a reduction in the United
3 States armed forces prior to the completion of the required
4 period of service, regardless of the actual time served,
5 for purposes of eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home
6 care; or

7 (8) have served in the National Guard or Reserve Forces
8 of the United States and completed 20 years of satisfactory
9 service, be otherwise eligible to receive reserve or active
10 duty retirement benefits, and have been an Illinois
11 resident for at least one year before applying for
12 admission for purposes of eligibility for domiciliary care
13 only.

14 (c) The veteran must have service accredited to the State
15 of Illinois or have been a resident of this State for one year
16 immediately preceding the date of application.

17 (d) For admission to the Illinois Veterans Homes at Anna
18 and Quincy, the veteran must have developed a disability by
19 disease, wounds, or otherwise and because of the disability be
20 incapable of earning a living.

21 (e) For admission to the Illinois Veterans Homes at
22 Chicago, LaSalle, and Manteno, the veteran must have developed
23 a disability by disease, wounds, or otherwise and, for purposes
24 of eligibility for nursing home care, require nursing care
25 because of the disability.

26 (f) An individual who served during a time of conflict as

1 set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of this Section
2 has preference over all other qualifying candidates, for
3 purposes of eligibility for domiciliary or nursing home care at
4 any Illinois Veterans Home.

5 (g) A veteran or spouse, once admitted to an Illinois
6 Veterans Home facility, is considered a resident for
7 interfacility purposes.

8 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; 99-314, eff. 8-7-15;
9 99-642, eff. 7-28-16.)

10 (20 ILCS 2805/2.01b new)

11 Sec. 2.01b. Illinois Veterans Home at Chicago. The Illinois
12 Veterans Home at Chicago is established. The Department shall
13 operate and maintain the Illinois Veterans Home at Chicago.

14 (20 ILCS 2805/2.04) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 67.04)

15 Sec. 2.04. There shall be established in the State Treasury
16 special funds known as (i) the LaSalle Veterans Home Fund, (ii)
17 the Anna Veterans Home Fund, (iii) the Manteno Veterans Home
18 Fund, ~~and~~ (iv) the Quincy Veterans Home Fund, and (v) the
19 Chicago Veterans Home Fund. All moneys received by an Illinois
20 Veterans Home from Medicare and from maintenance charges to
21 veterans, spouses, and surviving spouses residing at that Home
22 shall be paid into that Home's Fund. All moneys received from
23 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for patient care shall
24 be transmitted to the Treasurer of the State for deposit in the

1 Veterans Home Fund for the Home in which the veteran resides.
2 Appropriations shall be made from a Fund only for the needs of
3 the Home, including capital improvements, building
4 rehabilitation, and repairs. The Chicago Veterans Home Fund
5 shall be the Veterans Home Fund for the Illinois Veterans Home
6 at Chicago.

7 The administrator of each Veterans Home shall establish a
8 locally-held member's benefits fund. The Director may
9 authorize the Veterans Home to conduct limited fundraising in
10 accordance with applicable laws and regulations for which the
11 sole purpose is to benefit the Veterans Home's member's
12 benefits fund. Revenues accruing to an Illinois Veterans Home,
13 including any donations, grants for the operation of the Home,
14 profits from commissary stores, and funds received from any
15 individual or other source, including limited fundraising,
16 shall be deposited into that Home's benefits fund. Expenditures
17 from the benefits funds shall be solely for the special
18 comfort, pleasure, and amusement of residents. Contributors of
19 unsolicited private donations may specify the purpose for which
20 the private donations are to be used.

21 Upon request of the Department, the State's Attorney of the
22 county in which a resident or living former resident of an
23 Illinois Veterans Home who is liable under this Act for payment
24 of sums representing maintenance charges resides shall file an
25 action in a court of competent jurisdiction against any such
26 person who fails or refuses to pay such sums. The court may

1 order the payment of sums due to maintenance charges for such
2 period or periods of time as the circumstances require.

3 Upon the death of a person who is or has been a resident of
4 an Illinois Veterans Home who is liable for maintenance charges
5 and who is possessed of property, the Department may present a
6 claim for such sum or for the balance due in case less than the
7 rate prescribed under this Act has been paid. The claim shall
8 be allowed and paid as other lawful claims against the estate.

9 The administrator of each Veterans Home shall establish a
10 locally-held trust fund to maintain moneys held for residents.
11 Whenever the Department finds it necessary to preserve order,
12 preserve health, or enforce discipline, the resident shall
13 deposit in a trust account at the Home such monies from any
14 source of income as may be determined necessary, and
15 disbursement of these funds to the resident shall be made only
16 by direction of the administrator.

17 If a resident of an Illinois Veterans Home has a dependent
18 child, spouse, or parent the administrator may require that all
19 monies received be deposited in a trust account with dependency
20 contributions being made at the direction of the administrator.
21 The balance retained in the trust account shall be disbursed to
22 the resident at the time of discharge from the Home or to his
23 or her heirs or legal representative at the time of the
24 resident's death, subject to Department regulations or order of
25 the court.

26 The Director of Central Management Services, with the

1 consent of the Director of Veterans' Affairs, is authorized and
2 empowered to lease or let any real property held by the
3 Department of Veterans' Affairs for an Illinois Veterans Home
4 to entities or persons upon terms and conditions which are
5 considered to be in the best interest of that Home. The real
6 property must not be needed for any direct or immediate purpose
7 of the Home. In any leasing or letting, primary consideration
8 shall be given to the use of real property for agricultural
9 purposes, and all moneys received shall be transmitted to the
10 Treasurer of the State for deposit in the appropriate Veterans
11 Home Fund.

12 (Source: P.A. 99-314, eff. 8-7-15.)

13 Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
14 Section 5.878 as follows:

15 (30 ILCS 105/5.878 new)

16 Sec. 5.878. The Chicago Veterans Home Fund.

17 Section 15. The Illinois Library System Act is amended by
18 changing Section 8.6 as follows:

19 (75 ILCS 10/8.6)

20 Sec. 8.6. Illinois Veteran's Home Libraries. The State
21 Librarian shall distribute annual grants for initiatives of
22 library development and services within Illinois Veteran's

1 Home libraries located in Quincy, Manteno, LaSalle, Chicago,
2 and Anna upon the approval by the State Librarian of
3 application from libraries. Grants made under this Section
4 shall be made only from the Secretary of State Special License
5 Plate Fund. The State Librarian shall establish the criteria
6 for awarding the grants by rule.

7 (Source: P.A. 89-697, eff. 1-6-97.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
9 becoming law.