



**Adopted in House on May 06, 2004**

09300SB2844ham001

LRB093 20820 DRJ 49860 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2844

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 2844 by replacing  
3 the title with the following:

4 "AN ACT in relation to veterans."; and

5 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the  
6 following:

7 "Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is  
8 amended by adding Section 15 as follows:

9 (20 ILCS 2805/15 new)

10 Sec. 15. Veterans advisory council.

11 (a) A veterans advisory council shall be established in the  
12 State of Illinois. The council shall consist of at least 17  
13 members as follows:

14 (1) Four members of the General Assembly, appointed one  
15 each by the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of  
16 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
17 and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.  
18 Each such member must be from a legislative or  
19 representative district in which a State-operated veterans  
20 home is located, and each such district in which a  
21 State-operated veterans home is located must be  
22 represented on the council.

1           (2) Six members appointed by the Director of Veterans'  
2           Affairs.

3           (3) One member appointed by the commander or president  
4           of each veterans service organization that is chartered by  
5           the federal government and by the State of Illinois and  
6           elects to appoint a member.

7           No member of the council shall be an employee or  
8           representative of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

9           Members of the council shall serve without compensation or  
10          reimbursement.

11          (b) At the initial meeting of the council, the members  
12          shall elect from among themselves a chairman. The members shall  
13          draw lots to determine the length of their terms so that 9  
14          members have terms that expire on July 1, 2005 and the  
15          remaining members have terms that expire on July 1, 2006.  
16          Thereafter, all members of the council shall be appointed for  
17          terms of 2 years.

18          The Director of Veterans' Affairs may at any time make an  
19          appointment to fill a vacancy for the unexpired term of a  
20          member.

21          (c) The council shall meet quarterly or at the call of the  
22          chairman or at the call of the Director of Veterans' Affairs or  
23          the Governor. The Department shall provide meeting space and  
24          clerical and administrative support services for the council.

25          (d) The council has the power to do the following:

26                (1) Advise the Department of Veterans' Affairs with  
27                respect to the fulfillment of its statutory duties.

28                (2) Review and study the issues and concerns that are  
29                most significant to Illinois veterans and advise the  
30                Department on those issues and concerns.

31                (3) Receive a report from the Director of Veterans'  
32                Affairs or the Director's designee at each meeting with  
33                respect to the general activities of the Department.

34                (4) Report to the Governor and the General Assembly

1       annually describing the issues addressed and the actions  
2       taken by the council during the year as well as any  
3       recommendations for future action.

4       (e) The council established under this Section replaces any  
5       Illinois Veterans Advisory Council established under Executive  
6       Order No. 3 (1982).

7       Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
8       2004."