

1 AN ACT concerning veterans.

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

4 Section 5. The Veterans' Health Insurance Program Act of
5 2008 is amended by changing Section 45 as follows:

6 (330 ILCS 126/45)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2012)

8 Sec. 45. Reporting.

9 (a) The Department shall prepare an annual report for
10 submission to the General Assembly. The report shall be due to
11 the General Assembly by January 1 of each year beginning in
12 2009. This report shall include information regarding
13 implementation of the Program, including the number of veterans
14 enrolled and any available information regarding other
15 benefits derived from the Program, including screening for and
16 acquisition of other veterans' benefits through the Veterans'
17 Service Officers and the Veterans' Assistance Commissions.
18 This report may also include recommendations regarding
19 improvements that may be made to the Program and regarding the
20 extension of the repeal date set forth in Section 85 of this
21 Act.

22 (b) The Department shall also arrange for the conducting of
23 an evaluation regarding the availability of and access to

1 health care for veterans who are residents of Illinois, taking
2 into consideration the program established by this Act,
3 programs and services provided by the U.S. Department of
4 Veterans Affairs, and programs and services otherwise provided
5 by and available through other public and private entities. The
6 evaluation shall determine whether there are limitations or
7 barriers to care, gaps in service, or other deficits that
8 should be overcome to ensure that veterans are provided
9 appropriate and high-quality care. The Department shall report
10 on the results of this evaluation to the Governor and the
11 General Assembly by March 1, 2010.

12 (Source: P.A. 95-755, eff. 7-25-08.)

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.