



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB4213

Introduced 2/27/2009, by Rep. Rosemary Mulligan - Kay Hatcher
- Harry R. Ramey, Jr.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 1805/15 from Ch. 129, par. 220.15
20 ILCS 1805/20.5 new
20 ILCS 2805/1.2 new

Amends the Military Code of Illinois and the Department of Veterans Affairs Act. Creates the Division of Family Affairs within the Department of Military Affairs to assist family members of military members who are mobilized or in service abroad, including through advocacy to help such family members access all available State services that are provided through the Department or any other State agency. Makes the head of the Division an Assistant Adjutant General. Creates the Division of Women Veterans Affairs within the Department of Veterans' Affairs to serve as an advocate for women veterans and assess the needs of women veterans with respect to issues including, but not limited to, compensation, rehabilitation, outreach, health care, and issues facing women veterans in the community; also provides that the Division shall review the Department's programs, activities, research projects, and other initiatives designed to meet the needs of women veterans and shall make recommendations to the Director of Veterans' Affairs concerning ways to improve, modify, and effect change in programs and services for women veterans. Makes the head of the Division an Assistant Director of Veterans' Affairs. Effective immediately.

LRB096 08588 DRJ 21432 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 Military Code of Illinois is amended by
5 changing Section 15 and by adding Section 20.5 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1805/15) (from Ch. 129, par. 220.15)

7 Sec. 15. Assistant Adjutants General.

8 (a) The Commander-in-Chief shall appoint from the active
9 officers of the Illinois National Guard, an Assistant Adjutant
10 General for Army and an Assistant Adjutant General for Air each
11 with a grade not to exceed Major General. Each of the Assistant
12 Adjutants General shall be appointed for a term coinciding with
13 the term provided for the Adjutant General in Section 14, and
14 shall serve with the compensation and responsibilities as
15 designated in this Act.

16 (a-5) The Commander-in-Chief shall appoint from the active
17 officers of the Illinois National Guard an Assistant Adjutant
18 General to serve as head of the Division of Family Affairs
19 within the Department of Military Affairs, with a grade not to
20 exceed Major General. The Assistant Adjutant General shall be
21 appointed for a term coinciding with the term provided for the
22 Adjutant General in Section 14, and shall serve with the
23 compensation and responsibilities as designated in this Code.

1 (b) The Commander-in-Chief may also appoint additional
2 Assistant Adjutants General for Army and such additional
3 Assistant Adjutants General for Air with the grades not to
4 exceed those authorized for the positions in the Joint Force
5 Headquarters of the Illinois National Guard.

6 (Source: P.A. 94-842, eff. 1-1-07.)

7 (20 ILCS 1805/20.5 new)

8 Sec. 20.5. Division of Family Affairs. The Division of
9 Family Affairs is created as a Division within the Department
10 of Military Affairs. The head of the Division shall serve as an
11 Assistant Adjutant General. The Division shall assist family
12 members of military members who are mobilized or in service
13 abroad. This assistance shall include, but need not be limited
14 to, advocacy to help such family members access all available
15 State services that are provided through the Department or any
16 other State agency.

17 Section 10. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is
18 amended by adding Section 1.2 as follows:

19 (20 ILCS 2805/1.2 new)

20 Sec. 1.2. Division of Women Veterans Affairs. The Division
21 of Women Veterans Affairs is created as a Division within the
22 Department. The head of the Division shall serve as an
23 Assistant Director of Veterans' Affairs. The Division shall

1 serve as an advocate for women veterans, in recognition of the
2 unique issues facing women veterans. The Division shall assess
3 the needs of women veterans with respect to issues including,
4 but not limited to, compensation, rehabilitation, outreach,
5 health care, and issues facing women veterans in the community.
6 The Division shall review the Department's programs,
7 activities, research projects, and other initiatives designed
8 to meet the needs of women veterans and shall make
9 recommendations to the Director of Veterans' Affairs
10 concerning ways to improve, modify, and effect change in
11 programs and services for women veterans.

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