

HB6254



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB6254

by Rep. Karen May

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/Art. 28A heading new
10 ILCS 5/28A-1 new

Amends the Election Code. Authorizes the voters of any unit of local government to pass, by initiative petition and referendum, a binding ordinance related to veterans. Provides that those ordinances may include measures that provide job training opportunities for veterans, veterans' employment, or other measures that enable veterans to access health services or other services and benefits.

LRB097 23544 KMW 72552 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

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

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by adding Article
5 28A and Section 28A-1 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/Art. 28A heading new)

7 ARTICLE 28A. REFERENDUM FOR HELPING VETERANS

8 (10 ILCS 5/28A-1 new)

9 Sec. 28A-1. Local government initiative petition and
10 referendum for helping veterans.

11 (a) In order to promote the welfare of veterans of our
12 nation's armed forces, the electors of any unit of local
13 government may pass, by initiative petition and referendum in
14 the manner prescribed by this Article, a binding ordinance
15 relating to the subjects set forth in subsection (b) that the
16 corporate authorities of their unit of local government are
17 empowered to pass.

18 (b) A binding ordinance relating to helping veterans of any
19 branch of service in the armed forces of the United States may
20 be proposed by a petition signed by the number of electors
21 equal to at least 8% of the total votes cast for Governor at
22 the last general election in the unit of local government. The

1 petition shall contain the text of the proposed ordinance and
2 the date of the general or consolidated election at which the
3 proposed ordinance is to be submitted, shall have been signed
4 by petitioning electors not more than 12 months preceding the
5 general or consolidated election, and shall be filed with the
6 clerk of the unit of local government at least 92 days before
7 that election. Ordinances that may be proposed pursuant to this
8 subsection (b) include, but are not limited to, measures that
9 provide job training or employment opportunities for veterans,
10 or other measures that enable veterans to access health
11 services or other services and benefits. Any ordinance proposed
12 pursuant to this subsection (b) that will require the
13 imposition of a tax or fee of any kind, or the expenditure of
14 any public funds, shall specify, in the text of the referendum
15 question, the amount of any such tax, fee, or expenditure, on
16 an annual basis.

17 (c) If the corporate authorities of the unit of local
18 government, without amendment, pass the binding ordinance
19 proposed by such a petition filed with the clerk of the unit of
20 local government not less than 78 days prior to the regular or
21 unit of local government election at which the petition
22 specifies the proposed binding ordinance is to be submitted,
23 then the proposed binding ordinance shall not be submitted to
24 the electors of the unit of local government.

25 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this Article, petitions
26 filed under this Article shall be governed by Article 28 of

1 this Code.

2 (e) If no objection to a petition filed under subsection
3 (b) is filed within 5 business days after such petition is
4 filed, or if an objection is filed and the appropriate
5 electoral official or board rules the petition sufficient, then
6 the clerk of the unit of local government shall submit the
7 petition to the election official or board for the unit of
8 local government, and the election official or board shall
9 order the proposed ordinance submitted to the electors of the
10 unit of local government at the election specified in the
11 petition.

12 (f) If, after the election official or board of the unit of
13 local government orders the proposed ordinance to be submitted
14 to the electors of the unit of local government, it determines
15 that the proposed ordinance is too long to be printed in its
16 entirety on the ballot, it shall ask the clerk of the unit of
17 local government to provide a concise statement of its nature.
18 The election official or board shall then cause either the
19 entire proposed ordinance or the concise statement to be
20 printed on the ballot together with a question permitting the
21 elector to indicate approval or disapproval of adoption of the
22 proposed ordinance.

23 (g) If a majority of those voting on the proposed ordinance
24 indicate approval of its adoption, it shall be passed and have
25 the same effect as if it had been passed by the corporate
26 authorities of the unit of local government, except as provided

1 in subsection (h).

2 (h) Ordinances adopted under this Article, either by
3 approval of electors at an election or by passage by the
4 corporate authorities under subsection (c), shall not be
5 repealed or amended within 4 years after adoption except by
6 vote of the electors.

7 (i) The corporate authorities of a unit of local government
8 may submit to its electorate a proposition to repeal or amend
9 an ordinance adopted under this Article at any election in
10 conformance with Article 28 of this Code.