

Assembly Bill No. 482—Committee on Ways and Means

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to veterans affairs; requiring the Department of Veterans Services and the Nevada Veterans Services Commission to prepare certain reports; imposing certain duties on the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs relating to veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 8 of this bill requires the Director of the Department of Veterans Services to prepare a fiscal report regarding the amount and sources of funding received by the Department for the provision of programs and services to veterans and a comprehensive overview of the Department's budget. **Section 8** also requires the Director to transmit a digital copy of the report to each veteran for whom the Department has an electronic mail address and to post the report on the Department's Internet website.

Existing law creates the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs and requires the Council to perform various duties relating to the needs of veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families in Nevada. (NRS 417.0191, 417.0195) **Section 9** of this bill imposes additional duties on the Council relating to such persons, including: (1) fostering the development and dissemination of research and policy for improving outcomes for those persons; (2) developing and administering a fellowship program to increase research on improving outcomes for those persons; and (3) developing models for outreach to and engagement of veterans.

Under existing law, the Nevada Veterans Services Commission is required to advise the Director and Deputy Director of the Department of Veterans Services on various issues relating to veterans. (NRS 417.150-417.190) **Section 12** requires the Nevada Veterans Services Commission to prepare and submit an annual report to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs that summarizes its activities during the preceding fiscal year. **Section 9** requires the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs to include the Commission's annual report in the annual report that the Interagency Council is required to submit to the Governor and the Legislature.

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Sections 1-7. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 8. Chapter 417 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Director shall, not later than August 1 of each year, prepare a report that provides an analysis of the funding of programs and services for veterans in this State. The report must include, without limitation:



(a) The amount and sources of money received by the Department for the provision of programs and services for veterans in this State;

(b) A comprehensive overview of the budget of the Department; and

(c) The expenditures made from the Gift Account for the Veterans Home in Southern Nevada, the Gift Account for the Veterans Home in Northern Nevada and the Gift Account for Veterans established pursuant to NRS 417.145.

2. The Director shall:

(a) Transmit a digital copy of the report to each veteran in this State for whom the Department has an electronic mail address of record; and

(b) Publish a digital copy of the report on the Internet website maintained by the Department.

Sec. 9. NRS 417.0195 is hereby amended to read as follows:
417.0195 The Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs shall:

1. Identify and prioritize the needs of veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families in this State.

2. Study the coordination of the efforts of the Federal Government, State Government, local governments and private entities to meet the needs of veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families in this State.

3. *Develop and disseminate best practices for improving outcomes for veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families through policy recommendations at the state and local governmental levels.*

4. *Foster the development and dissemination of research and policy for improving outcomes for veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families.*

5. *Develop and administer a fellowship program to increase research on improving outcomes for veterans and servicemen and servicewomen and their families, including, without limitation, in the areas of education, employment and wellness. The program must include, without limitation, publication of peer-reviewed materials and an annual conference.*

6. *Cultivate leadership opportunities for veterans.*

7. *Develop models for outreach to and engagement of veterans.*

8. On or before February 15 of each year, submit a report concerning the activities of the Council during the preceding calendar year , *including the annual report submitted to the Council by the Nevada Veterans Services Commission pursuant to*



NRS 417.190, and any recommendations of the Council to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to:

- (a) If the Legislature is in session, the standing committees of the Legislature which have jurisdiction of the subject matter; or
- (b) If the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Commission.

Secs. 10 and 11. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 12. NRS 417.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

417.190 The Nevada Veterans Services Commission shall:

- 1. Advise the Director and Deputy Director.

2. ***Prepare and submit a report, on or before November 1 of each year, to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs. The report must, without limitation:***

(a) Summarize the activities of the Commission during the preceding fiscal year.

(b) Make recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature, the Director and the Deputy Director regarding ~~aid or benefits~~ issues relating to veterans.

Sec. 13. The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to the reporting requirements of section 8 of this act and NRS 417.190, as amended by section 12 of this act.

Sec. 14. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

