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S.B. 160*
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Rules and Reference

Primary Sponsor: Sen. O'Brien

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SUMMARY

- Requires certain entities to inform a veteran or the veteran's spouse, surviving spouse, or representative about available health care or financial benefits.
- Designates the bill as the "Veteran Information Act."

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Duty to inform veterans

The bill requires certain entities to inform a veteran or the veteran's spouse, surviving spouse, or representative about (1) health care or financial benefits that are available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and (2) information about congressionally chartered veterans service organizations or the county veterans service office that can assist the veteran with investigating and applying for benefits through the VA.

The bill requires this information to be provided to a veteran or the veteran's spouse, surviving spouse, or representative in all of the following situations:

- During a long-term care consultation conducted under the long-term care consultation program administered by the Department of Aging;¹
- By any person or public agency licensed to provide a hospice care program when a veteran seeks services;²

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Rules and Reference Committee appeared in the House Journal. Therefore, the history may be incomplete.

¹ R.C. 173.42(E)(5).

² R.C. 3712.06(I).

- A nursing home or skilled nursing facility when a veteran seeks admission to the home or facility. This requirement does not apply to a nursing home that participates in the Veteran Community Partnerships Program administered by the VA;³
- A hospital discharging a patient who is a veteran and who requires additional health care services after discharge.⁴

Also, the bill requires the Medicaid Director to provide, to a veteran who has submitted an application for the Medicaid program, information about the county veterans service office that can assist the veteran with investigating and applying for benefits through the VA.⁵

Continuing law defines a veteran, for purposes of the bill's requirements, as (1) a former member of the U.S. armed forces who served on active military duty and received an honorable discharge or honorable separation, or (2) a U.S. merchant marine who has an honorable report of separation from active duty military service.⁶

Veteran Information Act

The bill is designated as the "Veteran Information Act."⁷

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	04-13-21
Reported, S. Veterans and Public Safety	06-02-21
Passed Senate (33-0)	06-09-21
Reported, H. Armed Services and Veterans Affairs	05-12-22
Reported, H. Rules and Reference	---

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³ R.C. 3721.141.

⁴ R.C. 3727.75(B)(2).

⁵ R.C. 5162.75.

⁶ R.C. 5901.01, not in the bill.

⁷ Section 3.