



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Final Analysis

Abby McMahon

Am. Sub. H.B. 173 131st General Assembly (As Passed by the General Assembly)

Reps. Anielski and Terhar, Dever, Butler, Brenner, Hambley, Becker, Stinziano, Grossman, Blessing, Retherford, T. Johnson, Kraus, Perales, Arndt, Bishoff, Fedor, Landis, M. O'Brien, Young, Amstutz, Antonio, Ashford, Baker, Barnes, Boccieri, Boggs, Boose, Boyce, Boyd, Brown, Buchy, Burkley, Celebrezze, Cera, Conditt, Craig, Cupp, Derickson, DeVitis, Driehaus, Duffey, Ginter, Gonzales, Hagan, Hayes, Howse, G. Johnson, Koehler, Kuhns, Kunze, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Manning, McColley, S. O'Brien, Pelanda, Phillips, Ramos, Reineke, Roegner, Rogers, Romanchuk, Ruhl, Ryan, Schaffer, Scherer, Schuring, Sheehy, Slaby, Slesnick, K. Smith, Strahorn, Sweeney, Sykes, Thompson, Vitale, Zeltwanger

Sens. Uecker, LaRose, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hackett, Hite, Hottinger, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Tavares, Thomas, Williams, Yuko

Effective date: September 8, 2016

ACT SUMMARY

- Allows boards of county commissioners to authorize county recorders or county veterans service offices to issue veteran identification cards to individuals who satisfy specified requirements.
- Requires the Ohio Recorders Association to consult with the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio and Ohio State Association of County Veteran Service Officers to establish standards for veteran ID cards.
- Specifies that veteran ID card application materials are not a public record under the Public Records Act.
- Requires county recorders or county veterans service offices to credit fees received from issuing veteran ID cards to the county general fund.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Veteran identification cards

Issuance

The act allows a board of county commissioners to authorize, by resolution, its county recorder or county veterans service office to issue Ohio veteran identification cards. To obtain a veteran ID card, an individual must satisfy the following requirements: (1) present the individual's armed forces discharge record for recording in the county recorder's office, (2) provide, in person at the county recorder's office, two forms of current and valid identification, one with a photograph of the individual, and (3) pay a fee, if the board of county commissioners has established one by resolution. The fee may not exceed \$2. And, if a county veterans service office maintains access to the state and federal military service verification system, before issuing a veteran ID card, the county veterans service office or county recorder, by consulting the county veterans service office, must confirm that the individual's armed forces discharge record is in that system and does not indicate a dishonorable discharge.¹

The act specifies the following documents as valid forms of identification:

- An original or a certified birth certificate;
- An identification card issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs;
- A U.S. military identification card;
- A Social Security card;
- A license or permit to carry a concealed weapon issued by Ohio or another state;
- A motor vehicle operator's license, issued by Ohio or another state that bears a photograph of the licensee;
- An identification card, issued by Ohio or another state that bears a photograph of the individual;
- A valid passport that bears a photograph of the individual;

¹ R.C. 317.241(A).



- A U.S. Armed Forces discharge record.²

An applicant must be photographed in color when applying for a veteran ID card. A county recorder or county veterans service office that issues the cards must provide the necessary equipment to take color photographs. The act specifies that all photographic records obtained by issuance of veteran ID cards are the property of the county recorder's office or county veterans service office.³

An individual whose current veteran ID card is lost or damaged may apply for a replacement card. A veteran ID card expires ten years after it is issued; an individual may apply to receive a new card. A replacement or renewal veteran ID card requires the individual to meet the requirements for issuance of the card.⁴

The act allows a county recorder or county veterans service office that has a program to issue veteran ID cards in operation before the act's effective date to continue issuing cards without a resolution of the board of county commissioners if the recorder or office conforms its program to otherwise comply with the act's requirements.⁵

Application materials not public record

The act also specifies that all application materials, including application, photographs, documents, or other information submitted with an application or obtained by a county recorder or county veterans service office are not public records under the Public Records Act. A county recorder or county veterans service office is authorized to release the application materials only as follows: (1) to a state, local, or federal governmental agency for criminal justice purposes or to a court for any purpose arising in the court, (2) to the Department of Veterans Services, but only if the veteran gives prior signed, written approval, or (3) to a county veterans service commission, but only if the veteran gives prior signed, written approval. The recipient of application materials must maintain the confidentiality of any materials received.⁶

² R.C. 317.241(D).

³ R.C. 317.241(F)(2).

⁴ R.C. 317.241(C).

⁵ R.C. 317.241(B).

⁶ R.C. 317.241(G).



County general fund

A county recorder or county veterans service office must deposit fees collected from the issuance of veteran ID cards into the county treasury to the credit of the county general fund.⁷

Contract for production services

A county recorder or county veterans service office may contract with any other Ohio political subdivision to produce veteran ID cards.⁸

Donations

A county recorder or county veterans service office may accept supply and equipment donations for use in producing veteran ID cards.⁹

Material and design standards

The Ohio Recorders Association, in consultation with the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio and Ohio State Association of County Veteran Service Officers, must establish material and design standards for veteran ID cards.¹⁰ Veteran ID cards must conform to these standards.¹¹

The material and design standards must require that a veteran ID card include "Ohio," a distinguishing number assigned to the cardholder, the issuing county's name, the veteran's record of discharge indexing number, the card's issuance and expiration date, a color photograph of the cardholder, and the cardholder's name, residence address, branch of service, dates of service, and date of discharge. The card may not display the cardholder's Social Security number unless federal law requires it.¹²

⁷ R.C. 317.241(E).

⁸ R.C. 317.241(H).

⁹ R.C. 317.241(I).

¹⁰ Section 2 of the act.

¹¹ R.C. 317.241(F)(1).

¹² R.C.317.242.



HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-28-15
Reported, H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	06-25-15
Re-referred to H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	02-16-16
Reported, H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	02-24-16
Passed House (95-0)	04-20-16
Reported, S. State and Local Gov't	05-25-16
Passed Senate (33-0)	05-25-16
House concurred in Senate amendments (94-1)	05-25-16

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