



January 22, 2016

HOUSE BILL No. 1089

DIGEST OF HB 1089 (Updated January 19, 2016 6:59 pm - DI 113)

Citations Affected: IC 10-17.

Synopsis: Veteran service officers. Creates the position of district service officer. Requires the veterans' affairs commission (commission) to establish certification requirements for district service officers. Requires the commission to create six geographic districts in Indiana and appoint a district service officer for each district. Specifies the role and responsibilities of district service officers.

Effective: July 1, 2016.

Frye R, Borders, Arnold L

January 5, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.

January 13, 2016, amended, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 127.

January 21, 2016, reported — Do Pass.

HB 1089—LS 6389/DI 123



January 22, 2016

Second Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2016)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2015 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1089

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning public safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 10-17-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2013,
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2016]: Sec. 4. The commission shall do acts necessary or
4 reasonably incident to the fulfillment of the purposes of this chapter,
5 including the following:
6 (1) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to administer this chapter.
7 (2) Advise the veterans' state service officer in problems
8 concerning the welfare of veterans.
9 (3) Determine general administrative policies within the
10 department.
11 (4) Establish standards for certification of **district**, county, and
12 city service officers.
13 (5) Establish and administer a written examination for renewal of
14 the certification of **district**, county, and city service officers.
15 (6) **Establish six (6) districts in Indiana to be staffed by a**
16 **district service officer in each of the districts.**
17 (7) **Appoint a district service officer to each of the six (6)**

HB 1089—LS 6389/DI 123



1 **districts established under subdivision (6).**

2 SECTION 2. IC 10-17-1-9.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
3 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
4 1, 2016]: **Sec. 9.5. (a) A district service officer must do the**
5 **following:**

6 **(1) Serve in one (1) of the six (6) geographic districts**
7 **established by the commission under section 4(6) of this**
8 **chapter.**

9 **(2) Provide training and assistance to all city and county**
10 **service officers located in the district service officer's district.**

11 **(3) Provide accreditation and reaccreditation opportunities**
12 **for city and county service officers located in the district**
13 **service officer's district.**

14 **(4) Perform community outreach services for veterans and**
15 **veterans' families.**

16 **(5) Perform any other service deemed necessary by the**
17 **commission.**

18 **(b) A district service officer must live in the district served by**
19 **the officer.**

20 **(c) District service officers shall report to the director of**
21 **veterans' affairs.**

22 SECTION 3. IC 10-17-1-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2013,
23 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2016]: **Sec. 10. (a) Within thirty (30) days of their**
25 **appointment, new **district**, county, or city service officers must attend**
26 **a new service officer orientation presented by the Indiana department**
27 **of veterans' affairs and, according to the standards established under**
28 **section 4(4) of this chapter, become certified to assist veterans and**
29 **their dependents and survivors. The curriculum for the new service**
30 **officer orientation presented under this subsection shall be determined**
31 **by the director.**

32 **(b) Within one (1) year of appointment, new service officers must**
33 **attend a course presented by a national organization and become**
34 **accredited to represent veterans.**

35 **(c) An individual employed as a **district**, county, or city service**
36 **officer under this chapter on July 1, 2013, is required to become**
37 **accredited not later than July 1, ~~2015~~, 2016, to represent veterans.**

38 **(d) Annually, all **district**, county, or city service officers shall**
39 **undergo a course of training to adequately address problems of**
40 **discharged veterans in the service officer's **district**, county, or city,**
41 **including a thorough familiarization with laws, rules, and regulations**
42 **of the federal government and the state that affect benefits to which the**



1 veterans and dependents of the veterans are entitled. After a service
2 officer has undergone this sustainment training and successfully passed
3 a written test, the service officer shall be recertified by the director to
4 assist veterans for the following year.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety, to which was referred House Bill 1089, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17.

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 4.

Page 3, delete lines 26 through 32.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1089 as introduced.)

BORDERS

Committee Vote: yeas 11, nays 0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred House Bill 1089, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB1089 as printed January 14, 2016.)

BROWN T

Committee Vote: Yeas 22, Nays 0

