

HOUSE BILL No. 1376

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-20-11; IC 12-8-15; IC 16-19-18; IC 31-25-7.

Synopsis: Collection of veteran status information. Requires the Indiana housing and community development authority, the family and social services administration, the state department of health, and the department of child services to obtain veteran status information from applicants or individuals receiving services by asking: (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?". Provides that the agencies must state that applicants and other individuals have the option to decline to answer the questions. Requires the agencies to keep the information submitted or obtained in a data base and to share the information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs. Allows the Indiana department of veterans' affairs to use the shared information to develop outreach programs for veterans and their families.

Effective: July 1, 2020.

Speedy

January 15, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.



Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

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 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1376

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-20-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2020]:

4 **Chapter 11. Veteran Status Information**

5 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies to services provided after December**
6 **31, 2020.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "armed forces of the United**
8 **States" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-9-4-3.**

9 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "authority" means the Indiana**
10 **housing and community development authority created by**
11 **IC 5-20-1-3.**

12 **Sec. 4. (a) An application for any service provided by the**
13 **authority must contain the following questions:**

14 (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States
15 or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana
16 National Guard?".

17 (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in



1 the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the
2 National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?".

3 **(b) An application described in subsection (a) must indicate that**
4 **an applicant has the option whether or not to answer the questions**
5 **set forth in subsection (a).**

6 **Sec. 5. The authority shall keep the information submitted**
7 **under section 4 of this chapter in a data base and share the**
8 **information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs upon**
9 **the request of the department. Information shared under this**
10 **section may be used by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs**
11 **to develop outreach programs for veterans and their families.**

12 SECTION 2. IC 12-8-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
13 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
14 1, 2020]:

15 **Chapter 15. Veteran Status Information**

16 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies to services provided after December**
17 **31, 2020.**

18 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "armed forces of the United**
19 **States" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-9-4-3.**

20 **Sec. 3. (a) An application for any service provided under this**
21 **title must contain the following questions:**

22 **(1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States**
23 **or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana**
24 **National Guard?".**

25 **(2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in**
26 **the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the**
27 **National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?".**

28 **(b) An application described in subsection (a) must indicate that**
29 **an applicant has the option whether or not to answer the questions**
30 **set forth in subsection (a).**

31 **Sec. 4. The office shall keep the information submitted under**
32 **section 3 of this chapter in a data base and share the information**
33 **with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs upon the request**
34 **of the department. Information shared under this section may be**
35 **used by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs to develop**
36 **outreach programs for veterans and their families.**

37 SECTION 3. IC 16-19-18 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
38 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2020]:

40 **Chapter 18. Veteran Status Information**

41 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies to any assistance or services**
42 **provided after December 31, 2020.**



1 **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "armed forces of the United
2 States" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-9-4-3.

3 **Sec. 3. (a)** An application for any assistance or service provided
4 by the state department must contain the following questions:

5 (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States
6 or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana
7 National Guard?"

8 (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in
9 the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the
10 National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?"

11 **(b)** An application described in subsection (a) must indicate that
12 an applicant has the option whether or not to answer the questions
13 set forth in subsection (a).

14 **Sec. 4.** The state department shall keep the information
15 submitted under section 3 of this chapter in a data base and share
16 the information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs
17 upon the request of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs.
18 Information shared under this section may be used by the Indiana
19 department of veterans' affairs to develop outreach programs for
20 veterans and their families.

21 SECTION 4. IC 31-25-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
22 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
23 1, 2020]:

24 **Chapter 7. Veteran Status Information**

25 **Sec. 1.** This chapter applies to services provided after December
26 31, 2020.

27 **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "armed forces of the United
28 States" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-9-4-3.

29 **Sec. 3. (a)** In providing and administering services to a
30 household under this title, the department must ask the following
31 questions of each adult member of the household:

32 (1) "Have you served in the armed forces of the United States
33 or their reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana
34 National Guard?"

35 (2) "Are you the surviving spouse of someone who served in
36 the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the
37 National Guard, or in the Indiana National Guard?"

38 **(b)** The department must indicate that an individual has the
39 option whether or not to answer the questions set forth in
40 subsection (a).

41 **Sec. 4.** The department shall keep the information obtained
42 under section 3 of this chapter in a data base and share the



1 **information with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs upon**
2 **the request of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs.**
3 **Information shared under this section may be used by the Indiana**
4 **department of veterans' affairs to develop outreach programs for**
5 **veterans and their families.**

