



1 board or committees of the veterans' organizations named in this  
2 section shall each submit to the Governor ~~of Oklahoma~~ a list of five  
3 ~~(5)~~ persons qualified to serve as members of the Oklahoma Veterans  
4 Commission. All appointments shall be broadly representative of the  
5 veterans of this state in terms of age, gender, and race or  
6 ethnicity. The list shall be submitted to the Governor not later  
7 than three (3) months prior to the expiration of the terms of office  
8 of the members of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission. The Governor  
9 shall name one member from each of the following Veterans' groups:  
10 the American Legion; the Veterans of Foreign ~~wars~~ Wars; the Disabled  
11 American Veterans; the Paralyzed Veterans of America; the Military  
12 Order of the Purple Heart; and the National Guard Association of  
13 Oklahoma. The members representing the American Legion and the  
14 Paralyzed Veterans of America shall take office no later than July  
15 1, 2015. The members representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars and  
16 the Military Order of the Purple Heart shall take office no later  
17 than July 1, 2016. The members representing the Disabled American  
18 Veterans and the ~~Oklahoma~~ National Guard Association of Oklahoma  
19 shall take office no later than July 1, 2017. The Governor shall  
20 also appoint three members at large, ~~one of whom may be a nonveteran~~  
21 ~~and shall have a family member residing in a state veteran center,~~  
22 ~~one to be appointed 2015, one to be appointed in 2016, and one to be~~  
23 ~~appointed in 2017.~~

24

1       The executive officer of each veterans' organization operating  
2 within ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state shall, on or before January  
3 1 of the year in which the organization's appointee's term expires,  
4 submit to the Secretary of State, the Governor, the President Pro  
5 Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
6 Representatives a copy of the performance audit and the financial  
7 audit of the organization for the immediately preceding fiscal year  
8 of the organization. Such audits shall be conducted in accordance  
9 with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and  
10 shall clearly show the total paid membership of the organization and  
11 shall be certified to by a certified public accountant. Failure to  
12 comply with this section shall render the organization ineligible to  
13 submit a nominee to the Governor. The members of the Commission  
14 shall be appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the  
15 Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. When a  
16 vacancy on the Oklahoma Veterans Commission occurs, the organization  
17 which is represented by the vacant position shall submit a list of  
18 five ~~(5)~~ names to the Governor. The Governor shall choose a  
19 replacement from that list. No person shall be appointed by the  
20 Governor who is related by affinity or consanguinity within the  
21 third degree to any person employed by the Oklahoma Department of  
22 Veterans Affairs.

23       Before any member appointed as provided herein shall enter upon  
24 his or her duties as a member of the Commission, he or she shall

1 take and subscribe to the oath of office as required by the  
2 Constitution of this state.

3 Present members of the Commission shall continue in office until  
4 the expiration of their terms and until their successors are  
5 appointed and enter upon the duties of their offices. Appointments  
6 shall be made for a three-year period. Any vacancy on the  
7 Commission resulting from any cause shall be filled by appointment  
8 by the Governor for the remainder of the term as provided in this  
9 section.

10 No member of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall be employed  
11 by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs during the time of  
12 his or her service on the Oklahoma Veterans Commission nor shall any  
13 person who served as a member of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission be  
14 employed by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs subsequent  
15 to his or her service on the Commission for a period of two (2)  
16 years.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

18 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
19 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

22  
23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS,  
24 dated 03/30/2021 - DO PASS.