



2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 491

October 13, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives PETERSEN, SUDER, VOS, KERKMAN, BROOKS, A. OTT, KNODL, NASS and TOWNSEND, cosponsored by Senators OLSEN, KREITLOW and VINEHOUT. Referred to Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 45.50 (1) (am) of the statutes; **relating to:** requirements for
2 employment as the commandant at a veterans home.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is required to employ a commandant for the veterans homes at King and at Union Grove, and may employ a commandant for the veterans home at Chippewa Falls. The commandants are state unclassified civil servants. Current law does not include any specific requirements for employment as a commandant of a veterans home. Each veterans home has a nursing home as part of the home.

This bill prohibits DVA from employing a person as a commandant of a veterans home unless the person is a veteran and is licensed as a nursing home administrator. Under the bill, a person who is a current commandant of a veterans home has six months after the bill is enacted to obtain a license as a nursing home administrator.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 45.50 (1) (am) of the statutes is created to read:
4 45.50 (1) (am) The department may not employ a person as the commandant
5 of a veterans home unless that person is a veteran and is licensed as a nursing home
6 administrator under ch. 456.

