

No. 1978-283

AN ACT

HB 885

Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the establishment of an advisory council for each State veterans' home and repealing certain provisions.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Title 51, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 704. Advisory councils for veterans' homes.

(a) Establishment of advisory council.—There is hereby established an advisory council for each veterans' home operated by the Commonwealth. Each advisory council shall consist of 11 members and the Adjutant General, who shall serve ex officio. Eight of the members shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant General by the Pennsylvania War Veterans' Council. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall each appoint one member from their respective bodies to serve on each council. The remaining member on the advisory council shall be selected by the residents of the veterans' homes.

(b) Term of office and officers.—Each member of the councils appointed from the General Assembly shall serve for the duration of that General Assembly. The eight members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of three years, provided that the initial eight members selected by the Governor shall serve as follows: three members for one year, three members for two years and two members for three years as designated by the Governor. Each council shall organize as soon as possible and shall annually elect a president, vice president and secretary.

(c) Removal for cause.—The members appointed by the Governor may be removed by the Governor for cause.

(d) Quorum and time of meetings.—Six members of a council shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of the council. Each advisory council shall meet at least quarterly and at other times at the call of the president.

(e) Expenses.—Members of each advisory council shall receive no compensation for their services but shall receive reimbursement for their necessary and proper expenses for attendance at meetings.

(f) Power and duty of advisory councils.—Each veterans' home advisory council shall advise the Adjutant General as to the management, operation and the adequacy of facilities and services at their respective homes.

Section 2. Section 202 insofar as it relates to the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and the Board of Trustees of Hollidaysburg Veterans' Home and section 1409, act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929," are repealed.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 26th day of November, A. D. 1978.

MILTON J. SHAPP