

HOUSE BILL No. 4642

May 26, 2015, Introduced by Reps. Jenkins, Vaupel, Inman, Muxlow, Hughes, Chatfield, Rutledge, Johnson and Rendon and referred to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs.

A bill to amend 1946 (1st Ex Sess) PA 9, entitled

"An act to create the Michigan veterans' trust fund, and to define who shall be eligible to receive assistance therefrom; to provide for the disbursement of the income thereof and surplus therein; to create a board of trustees, and to prescribe its powers and duties; to provide for county and district committees, and their powers, duties, and expenses; to prescribe penalties; and to make appropriations to carry out the provisions of this act,"

by amending sections 2, 3b, 4, 5, 6a, and 7 (MCL 35.602, 35.603b, 35.604, 35.605, 35.606a, and 35.607), sections 3b and 6a as added by 2011 PA 282, section 5 as amended by 2008 PA 235, and section 7 as amended by 2002 PA 153, and by adding section 1; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

SEC. 1. AS USED IN THIS ACT:

(A) "BOARD" OR "BOARD OF TRUSTEES" MEANS THE MICHIGAN VETERANS' TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES CREATED UNDER THIS ACT.

1 (B) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS
2 AFFAIRS.

3 (C) "FUND" MEANS THE MICHIGAN VETERANS' TRUST FUND CREATED IN
4 SECTION 37 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963.

5 (D) "MEMBER" OR "MEMBER OF THE BOARD" MEANS A MEMBER OF THE
6 MICHIGAN VETERANS' TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

7 (E) "RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATION" MEANS A VETERANS
8 ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
9 AFFAIRS UNDER 38 USC 5902.

10 (F) "VA" MEANS THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
11 AFFAIRS.

12 (G) "VETERAN" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS 1 OR MORE OF THE
13 FOLLOWING:

14 (i) HAS SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
15 UNITED STATES FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 180 DAYS AND WAS HONORABLY
16 DISCHARGED OR RECEIVED A GENERAL DISCHARGE UNDER HONORABLE
17 CONDITIONS.

18 (ii) WAS DISCHARGED OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE
19 ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF A SERVICE-CONNECTED
20 DISABILITY.

21 (iii) WAS HONORABLY DISCHARGED OR RECEIVED A GENERAL DISCHARGE
22 UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS FROM SERVICE AS A MEMBER OF THE RESERVE
23 OR NATIONAL GUARD COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED
24 STATES UNDER AN ORDER TO ACTIVE DUTY, EXCLUDING ACTIVE DUTY FOR
25 TRAINING.

26 Sec. 2. For the purposes of the administration of this act, a
27 Michigan veteran as defined by Act No. 190 of the Public Acts of

~~1 1965, as amended, shall be deemed to be a person, male or female,
2 whose legal residence immediately prior to entering the service was
3 in Michigan, who entered upon or was in active service in the armed
4 forces of the United States, at any time for at least 180 days from
5 and after the date as defined by Act No. 190 of the Public Acts of
6 1965, as amended, being sections 35.61 and 35.62 of the Michigan
7 Compiled Laws or Vietnam era, as determined for the purposes of
8 administration of this act, whether by induction, enlistment,
9 commission, warrant, or otherwise, and who has been honorably
10 discharged, retired, or separated therefrom, or who has reverted to
11 an inactive status therefrom under honorable conditions. However,
12 former members of the women's auxiliary army corps who refused to
13 accept transfer to or induction into the women's army corps shall
14 not be deemed to be veterans within the meaning of this definition.
15 A veteran who did not have legal residence in Michigan immediately
16 prior to entering the military service may become eligible to
17 benefits administered under this act after having established a
18 legal residence in Michigan. A veteran whose legal residence was in
19 Michigan prior to entering military service will lose his rights
20 under this act by leaving this state for a period of time exceeding
21 2 years. A person who shall have been separated for reason of
22 physical or mental disability incurred in the line of duty prior to
23 the completion of 180 days' service shall be considered a veteran
24 for the purpose of the administration of this act. World War II
25 shall be deemed to be that period from and after August 27, 1940,
26 to the inclusive date of June 30, 1946. Grants made to eligible
27 Michigan veterans between June 30, 1946, and the effective date of~~

1 ~~this act are declared valid. A person otherwise qualified with at~~
2 ~~least 90 days of service during World War I, Spanish American War~~
3 ~~or Mexican Wars, as defined in Act No. 190 of the Public Acts of~~
4 ~~1965, as amended, shall be deemed a veteran for the purposes of~~
5 ~~this act.~~ AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR BENEFITS IF THAT

6 INDIVIDUAL SATISFIES ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

7 (A) BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

8 (i) IS A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE.

9 (ii) IS A VETERAN.

10 (B) IS A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE AND IS EITHER AN UNREMARIED
11 SPOUSE OF A DECEASED INDIVIDUAL WHO MET ALL OF THE CONDITIONS SET
12 FORTH IN SUBDIVISION (A) OR AN UNMARRIED DEPENDENT OF A DECEASED
13 INDIVIDUAL WHO MET ALL OF THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION
14 (A).

15 (C) IS A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE AND IS EITHER AN UNREMARIED
16 SPOUSE OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO WAS
17 KILLED IN ACTION OR WHO IS MISSING IN ACTION OR AN UNMARRIED
18 DEPENDENT OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO
19 WAS KILLED IN ACTION OR WHO IS MISSING IN ACTION.

20 Sec. 3b. (1) There is created a Michigan veterans' trust fund
21 board of trustees. Each member of the board shall be a veteran.

22 (2) EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE
23 GOVERNOR. Each member appointed shall have demonstrated knowledge,
24 skills, and experience in public service, business, or finance. THE
25 BOARD MEMBERS, AS A WHOLE, SHALL ACCURATELY REPRESENT THE VARIED
26 VETERAN POPULATION IN THIS STATE, AND SHALL INCLUDE MEMBERS
27 REPRESENTING DIFFERENT CONFLICTS AS WELL AS A VARIETY OF POPULATION

1 DEMOGRAPHICS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, AGE, RACE, GENDER, AND
2 ETHNICITY. Members shall be appointed as follows:

3 (A) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, IF
4 THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE IS ELIGIBLE
5 FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 38 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE
6 STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963. IF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR
7 HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, IS ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD UNDER
8 SECTION 38 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963, AND IS
9 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION, THE DIRECTOR OF
10 THE DEPARTMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, SHALL BE A VOTING MEMBER OF
11 THE BOARD AND SHALL SERVE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD. THE DIRECTOR
12 OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, SHALL SERVE AT THE
13 PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR. IF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OR HIS
14 OR HER DESIGNEE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD UNDER
15 SECTION 38 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963, THE
16 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE SHALL SERVE AS AN
17 EX OFFICIO, NONVOTING MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

18 (B) ~~(a)~~—One representative of the American legion.

19 (C) ~~(b)~~—One representative of the veterans of foreign wars of
20 the United States.

21 (D) ~~(c)~~—One representative of the disabled American veterans.

22 (E) ~~(d)~~—One representative of any other congressionally
23 chartered veterans' organization **OR RECOGNIZED VETERANS**
24 **ORGANIZATION**, other than those organizations identified in
25 subdivision ~~(a), (b), or (c)~~. **(B), (C), OR (D)**.

26 (F) ~~(e)~~—Three independent members who may or may not be a
27 member of 1 or more congressionally chartered veterans'

1 organizations OR RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS, but who shall
2 not represent any congressionally chartered veterans' organization
3 OR RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATION of which they are a member.

4 (3) ~~(2) The members shall be appointed by the governor. Each~~
5 **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (4), EACH** member shall hold office for ~~the~~
6 ~~term of 3 years~~ **NOT MORE THAN 4 TERMS OF 3 YEARS EACH** from the time
7 of his or her appointment and shall continue to hold office at the
8 pleasure of the governor. The members enumerated in subsection
9 ~~(1)(a), (b), (c), and (d)~~ **(2) (B), (C), (D), AND (E)** shall be
10 appointed by the governor from the original list of at least 3
11 individuals recommended by each respective organization named in
12 subsection ~~(1)(a), (b), (c), and (d)~~ **(2) (B), (C), (D), AND (E)**.

13 **(4) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (3), AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE**
14 **OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED SECTION 1, THE FOLLOWING**
15 **RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER UNDER**
16 **SUBSECTION (2):**

17 **(A) FOR THE FIRST MEMBERS APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) (B) OR**
18 **(C) AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED**
19 **SECTION 1, THE INITIAL TERM SHALL BE FOR 1 YEAR. ANY SUBSEQUENT**
20 **TERMS FOR THOSE MEMBERS AND ANY SUCCEEDING MEMBERS SHALL BE AS**
21 **PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3).**

22 **(B) FOR A MEMBER APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) (D) OR (E)**
23 **AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED SECTION**
24 **1, THE INITIAL TERM SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF 2 YEARS. ANY**
25 **SUBSEQUENT TERMS FOR THOSE MEMBERS AND ANY SUCCEEDING MEMBERS SHALL**
26 **BE AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3).**

27 **(C) FOR MEMBERS APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) (F) AFTER THE**

1 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED SECTION 1, THE
 2 INITIAL TERM FOR 1 MEMBER SHALL BE 1 YEAR, AND THE INITIAL TERM FOR
 3 1 MEMBER SHALL BE 2 YEARS. ANY SUBSEQUENT TERMS FOR THOSE MEMBERS
 4 AND ANY SUCCEEDING MEMBERS SHALL BE AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
 5 (3).

6 (5) ~~(3)~~—Each member of the board shall qualify by taking and
 7 filing the constitutional oath of office.

8 (6) ~~(4)~~—The governor may remove any member of the board for
 9 misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, after hearing.
 10 Missing 3 or more consecutive meetings shall be considered
 11 malfeasance and is grounds for removal.

12 (7) ~~(5)~~—If a vacancy occurs during the term of office of a ~~an~~
 13 **APPOINTED** member of the board of trustees, the member's successor
 14 shall be selected from the same organization and in the same manner
 15 as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

16 (8) ~~(6)~~—The department of technology, management, and budget
 17 shall furnish suitable offices for use of the board.

18 (9) ~~(7)~~—The board may employ assistants and incur necessary
 19 expenses in carrying out this act. Members of the board shall serve
 20 without compensation, but shall be entitled to actual and necessary
 21 expenses incurred in attending scheduled meetings of the board in
 22 accordance with the accounting laws of this state.

23 ~~—— (8) As used in this act:~~

24 ~~—— (a) "Board" means the Michigan veterans' trust fund board of~~
 25 ~~trustees created in subsection (1).~~

26 ~~—— (b) "Veteran" means that term as defined in section 1 of 1965~~
 27 ~~PA 190, MCL 35.61.~~

1 Sec. 4. The board of trustees shall be a policy-making body,
2 on the state level, and shall have the following powers and duties:

3 **(A) TO ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

4 **(B)** ~~(a)~~ To determine the purposes for which available moneys
5 in the ~~trust~~ fund in excess of ~~\$50,000,000~~ **\$50,000,000.00** are to be
6 allocated to the ~~several veterans' county and district~~ **REGIONAL**
7 committees. †

8 **(C)** ~~(b)~~ To allocate part or all of available moneys ~~MONEY~~ **MONEY** in
9 the ~~trust~~ fund in excess of ~~\$50,000,000~~ **\$50,000,000.00** to the
10 ~~several veterans' county and district~~ **REGIONAL** committees, and to
11 disburse said ~~THOSE~~ allocations ~~from time to time~~ on the basis of
12 need. †

13 **(D)** ~~(c)~~ To prescribe **POLICY AND** rules governing the granting
14 of assistance to Michigan veterans, ~~—AND TO~~ their unremarried
15 widows ~~SPOUSES~~ and dependents on the basis of need, including the
16 prescribing of the necessary forms and the making of necessary
17 reports and accounting. ~~† for~~ **FOR** the purposes of the
18 administration of this act, dependents shall be considered to be
19 any persons ~~PERSON~~ **PERSON** legally entitled to look to the veteran for his
20 or her support. †

21 ~~—— (d) To collect data and information as to the facilities and~~
22 ~~services available to Michigan veterans and disseminate the same to~~
23 ~~veterans' organizations and individual veterans: Provided, however,~~
24 ~~That in no event shall more than \$5,000.00 be expended for this~~
25 ~~purpose in any 1 year,~~

26 (e) To do all acts necessary in carrying out ~~the provisions of~~
27 this act. †

1 (f) To receive and accept gifts and donations of property,
 2 real or personal, and ~~shall~~ **TO** hold, use, and apply the property ~~so~~
 3 received for **THE** purposes set forth in the instrument of gift ~~and~~
 4 in accordance with the provisions of ~~such~~ **THAT** instrument and
 5 subject to ~~the~~ **ANY** conditions and limitations ~~, if any, therein~~
 6 expressed **IN THAT INSTRUMENT**, if the **LIMITED** purposes ~~limited by~~
 7 ~~such gifts~~ are within the purposes of this act. †

8 (g) To submit to the governor, **THE DEPARTMENT, AND THE**
 9 **LEGISLATURE** a quarterly fiscal report and an annual report of
 10 operations and ~~such~~ **ANY** other reports ~~as may be requested by the~~
 11 governor **OR LEGISLATURE** covering the activities of the board. †

12 (h) ~~The Michigan veterans' trust fund board of trustees shall~~
 13 ~~not be empowered to file~~ **AN** application for, or ~~to prosecute the~~
 14 claim of, any individual for any benefit accruing to ~~such~~ **THAT**
 15 individual under the laws administered by the ~~United States~~
 16 ~~veterans' administration.~~ **VA.**

17 Sec. 5. (1) The **INTEREST AND** earnings of the Michigan
 18 veterans' trust fund shall be **EXPENDED, UPON APPROPRIATION, AS**
 19 **FOLLOWS:**

20 (A) **FOR THE PURPOSES AND IN THE MANNER** allocated ~~from time to~~
 21 ~~time by the board of trustees as follows:~~ **AS PROVIDED IN SECTION**
 22 **4(B) AND (C).**

23 ~~— (a) The operating expenses of the fund shall be approved~~
 24 ~~annually and funded from the surplus earnings.~~

25 ~~— (b) Fifty percent of the remaining surplus in and the earnings~~
 26 ~~of the fund shall be allocated for distribution to county and~~
 27 ~~district committees on the basis of need as determined by the~~

1 board.

2 ~~—— (c) The balance of the surplus in and earnings of the trust~~
 3 ~~fund after allocations under subdivisions (a) and (b) shall be~~
 4 ~~allocated in part or in whole to the several county and district~~
 5 ~~committees on the basis of veteran population. The funds made~~
 6 ~~available to the board of trustees for distribution to county and~~
 7 ~~district committees on the basis of need as determined by the board~~
 8 ~~of trustees shall be disbursed only for the same purposes of~~
 9 ~~providing for needs of Michigan veterans as defined by 1965 PA 190,~~
 10 ~~MCL 35.61 to 35.62, or their dependents as are the funds allocated~~
 11 ~~to county and district committees on the basis of veteran~~
 12 ~~population.~~

13 (B) INTEREST AND EARNINGS NOT EXPENDED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION

14 (A) MAY BE EXPENDED FOR EITHER OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

15 (i) THE BENEFIT OF VETERANS OR THEIR SPOUSES OR DEPENDENTS AT
 16 THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD.

17 (ii) ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS OF MANAGING THE
 18 FUND.

19 (2) MONEY IN THE FUND, INCLUDING INTEREST AND EARNINGS OF THE
 20 FUND, SHALL NOT BE EXPENDED FOR COSTS INCURRED BY THE AUDITOR
 21 GENERAL.

22 (3) ~~(2)~~ The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the
 23 ~~Michigan veterans' trust fund.~~ The state treasurer shall have the
 24 same authority to invest the assets of the ~~trust fund~~ as is granted
 25 to an investment fiduciary under the public employee retirement
 26 system investment act, 1965 PA 314, MCL 38.1132 to ~~38.1140m.~~
 27 **38.1141.** The state treasurer shall comply with the divestment from

1 terror act, 2008 PA 234, MCL 129.291 TO 129.301, in making
 2 investments under this act. The ~~trust~~ **ASSETS OF THE** fund shall be
 3 considered state funds and shall be protected by the official bond
 4 of the state treasurer.

5 (4) ~~(3)~~—The state treasurer shall annually prepare an
 6 accounting of revenues and expenditures from the ~~trust~~—fund. This
 7 accounting shall specifically identify the interest and earnings of
 8 the ~~trust~~—fund. ~~, shall describe how the amount of interest and~~
 9 ~~earnings has been affected by the expanded investment options~~
 10 ~~provided for in subsection (2), and shall identify how the~~
 11 ~~increased interest and earnings, if any, have been expended.~~—This
 12 accounting shall be provided to the senate and house of
 13 representatives appropriations committees **AND TO THE BOARD.**

14 Sec. 6a. (1) ~~The~~ **NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2016, THE** board of
 15 trustees shall establish in ~~the counties of this state~~
 16 ~~representative veteran county~~ **NOT MORE THAN 10 REGIONAL** committees
 17 for the administration of the allocated money on the local level.
 18 The board of trustees ~~may combine 2 or more counties into a~~
 19 ~~district if, in the opinion of the board of trustees, a more~~
 20 ~~efficient local administration may result from that~~
 21 ~~combination.~~ **SHALL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE THE STRUCTURE OF THE**
 22 **REGIONAL COMMITTEES NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2016.**

23 (2) Each member appointed **TO A REGIONAL COMMITTEE UNDER**
 24 **SUBSECTION (1)** shall have demonstrated knowledge, skills, and
 25 experience in public service, business, or finance. **THE COMMITTEE**
 26 **MEMBERS, AS A WHOLE, SHALL ACCURATELY REPRESENT THE VARIED VETERAN**
 27 **POPULATION IN THIS STATE, AND SHALL INCLUDE MEMBERS REPRESENTING**

1 DIFFERENT CONFLICTS AS WELL AS A VARIETY OF POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS
2 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, AGE, RACE, GENDER, AND ETHNICITY.

3 Members shall be appointed as follows:

4 (a) One representative of the American ~~legion~~-**LEGION**.

5 (b) One representative of the ~~veterans of foreign wars~~
6 **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS** of the United States.

7 (c) One representative of the ~~disabled~~-**DISABLED** American
8 ~~veterans~~-**VETERANS**.

9 (d) One representative of ~~any other congressionally chartered~~
10 ~~veterans~~-**A RECOGNIZED VETERANS** organization other than those
11 organizations identified in subdivision (a), (b), or (c).

12 **(E) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY**
13 **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS.**

14 **(F)** ~~(e)~~-Not less ~~more~~ **MORE** than ~~1-2~~ independent ~~member~~-**MEMBERS** who
15 may or may not be a member of 1 or more congressionally chartered
16 veterans' organizations **OR A RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATION**, but
17 shall not represent any congressionally chartered veterans'
18 organization **OR RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATION** of which he or she
19 is a member.

20 (3) Members appointed under subsection (2) shall be appointed
21 by the board of trustees upon recommendation of the organizations
22 identified in subsection (2). ~~For members appointed under~~
23 ~~subsection (2) (a), (b), or (c), a recommendation for appointment~~
24 ~~shall come from an organized and functioning local unit of the~~
25 ~~organization, through the organization's headquarters.~~ For a member
26 appointed under subsection ~~(2) (d)~~, **(2) (A) THROUGH (E)**, a
27 recommendation for appointment shall come from the state

1 headquarters **OR ASSOCIATION** of the congressionally chartered
 2 veterans' organization **OR RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATION** that
 3 validates the nominated member's qualifying criteria. For members
 4 appointed under subsection ~~(2)(e)~~, **(2)(F)**, candidates shall submit
 5 through the ~~county or district~~ **REGIONAL** committee the request for
 6 consideration of appointment with the required criteria validated.

7 ~~— (4) Each member of a county or district committee shall be a~~
 8 ~~veteran.~~

9 **(4)** ~~(5)~~—The board of trustees may remove a member of a ~~county~~
 10 ~~or district~~ **REGIONAL** committee for misfeasance, malfeasance, or
 11 nonfeasance in office, after hearing. Missing 2 or more consecutive
 12 meetings shall be considered malfeasance and is grounds for
 13 removal.

14 **(5)** ~~(6)~~—If a vacancy occurs during the term of office of a
 15 member of a ~~county or district~~ **REGIONAL** committee, the member's
 16 successor shall be selected from the same organization and in the
 17 same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the
 18 unexpired term.

19 **(6)** ~~(7)~~—Members of a ~~county or district~~ **REGIONAL** committee
 20 shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to ~~actual~~
 21 ~~and necessary expenses incurred in~~ **MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR**
 22 attending scheduled meetings of the **REGIONAL** committee or ~~in~~ **FOR**
 23 attending a meeting to make a determination on a grant, which
 24 ~~expenses, together with administration expenses,~~ **MILEAGE**
 25 **REIMBURSEMENT** shall be paid from money allocated to the ~~county or~~
 26 ~~district~~ **REGIONAL** committee as provided in this act.

27 **(7)** ~~(8)~~—The county boards of commissioners **IN A REGION**, or the

1 board of county auditors in a county with a board of county
2 auditors, shall provide suitable office space for ~~county and~~
3 ~~district committees.~~**THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE.**

4 (8) ~~(9) A veteran~~**PERSON WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR BENEFITS**
5 **AND** who considers himself or herself aggrieved at a decision
6 rendered by a ~~county or district~~**REGIONAL** committee in connection
7 with a request for assistance may appeal that decision to the board
8 of trustees. The decision of the board of trustees on an appeal
9 referred to it is final and binding on the veteran and the ~~county~~
10 ~~or district~~**REGIONAL** committee.

11 Sec. 7. (1) ~~Funds~~**NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, FUNDS**
12 shall be distributed to the ~~several~~ county treasurers by the state
13 treasurer at the direction of the board of trustees. The funds
14 distributed shall be credited by the county treasurer to a county
15 veterans' trust fund and shall be disbursed by the county treasurer
16 on vouchers drawn by the county clerk based on orders filed by the
17 ~~county or district~~**REGIONAL** committee. Allocations to ~~district~~
18 **REGIONAL** committees shall be distributed to the ~~several~~ county
19 treasurers of the counties composing the ~~district.~~**REGION.** The
20 veterans' trust fund shall be covered by the official bond of the
21 county treasurer.

22 (2) **ANY UNEXPENDED, UNENCUMBERED FUNDS REMAINING WITH A COUNTY**
23 **VETERANS' TRUST FUND AFTER OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR SHALL BE RETURNED**
24 **TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR DISBURSEMENT UNDER THIS ACT.**

25 Enacting section 1. Sections 2a, 4a, 4b, and 10 of 1946 (1st
26 Ex Sess) PA 9, MCL 35.602a, 35.604a, 35.604b, and 35.610, are
27 repealed.

1 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
2 after the date it is enacted into law.