

# SENATE BILL No. 248

March 16, 2017, Introduced by Senators WARREN, COLBECK, ROCCA, BIEDA, ANANICH, KOWALL, CONYERS, O'BRIEN and SCHMIDT and referred to the Committee on Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security.

A bill to create a commission to commemorate the centennial of World War I; to prescribe the powers and duties of the commission; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officials.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "World  
2 War I centennial commission act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4           (a) "Commission" means the World War I centennial commission  
5 created in section 3.

6           (b) "Department" means the department of military and veterans  
7 affairs.

8           (c) "Veteran" means that term as defined in section 1 of 1965  
9 PA 190, MCL 35.61.

1           Sec. 3. (1) The World War I centennial commission is created  
2 within the department.

3           (2) The commission shall consist of the director of the  
4 department and 13 members, appointed by the governor with the  
5 advice and consent of the senate.

6           (3) The members first appointed to the commission must be  
7 appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this act.

8           (4) If a vacancy occurs on the commission, the governor shall  
9 make an appointment in the same manner as the original appointment.

10          (5) The governor may remove a member of the commission for  
11 incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or  
12 nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

13          (6) The first meeting of the commission must be called by the  
14 director of the department. At the first meeting, the commission  
15 shall elect from among its members a chairperson and other officers  
16 as it considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting,  
17 the commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at  
18 the call of the chairperson or if requested by 7 or more members.

19          (7) A majority of the members of the commission constitute a  
20 quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the  
21 commission. A majority of the members present and serving are  
22 required for official action of the commission.

23          (8) The business that the commission may perform must be  
24 conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance  
25 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

26          (9) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or  
27 retained by the commission in the performance of an official

1 function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,  
2 MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

3 (10) Members of the commission shall serve without  
4 compensation. However, members of the commission may be reimbursed  
5 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance  
6 of their official duties as members of the commission.

7 Sec. 4. The commission shall do all of the following:

8 (a) Plan, develop, and execute programs, projects, and  
9 activities to commemorate the centennial of World War I.

10 (b) Encourage private organizations and state and local  
11 governments to organize and participate in activities organized by  
12 the commission.

13 (c) Facilitate and coordinate World War I centennial  
14 activities throughout this state.

15 (d) Serve as a clearinghouse for the collection and  
16 dissemination of information about World War I centennial events  
17 and plans.

18 (e) Develop recommendations on ways to commemorate the World  
19 War I centennial in this state and provide a report on these  
20 recommendations to the director, the governor, and the legislature.

21 Sec. 5. The department shall assist the commission in carrying  
22 out its duties under this act.

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