

HOUSE BILL NO. 4800

June 15, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Koleszar and Morgan and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1899 PA 214, entitled

"An act to provide relief outside of the soldiers' home for honorably discharged indigent soldiers, sailors, marines, nurses and members of women's auxiliaries and the indigent wives, widows and minor children of such indigent or deceased soldiers, sailors, marines, nurses and members of women's auxiliaries, and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts,"

by amending the title and section 1 (MCL 35.21), section 1 as amended by 2016 PA 218.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1

TITLE

2

An act to provide relief outside of the soldiers' home for

1 honorably discharged indigent soldiers, sailors, marines,
2 **guardians, coast guardsmen**, nurses, and members of women's
3 auxiliaries and the indigent ~~wives, widows~~**spouses, surviving**
4 **spouses**, and minor children of ~~such~~**those** indigent or deceased
5 soldiers, sailors, marines, **guardians, coast guardsmen**, nurses, and
6 members of women's auxiliaries, and to repeal certain acts and
7 parts of acts.

8 Sec. 1. **(1)** The county board of commissioners of each county
9 shall annually levy a tax, not exceeding 1/10 of a mill on each
10 dollar, to be levied and collected as provided by law, upon the
11 taxable property of each township and city, for their respective
12 counties, for the purpose of creating a fund for the relief of
13 honorably discharged indigent members of the Army, Navy, Air Force,
14 Marine Corps, **Space Force**, Coast Guard, and women's auxiliaries and
15 the indigent spouses, minor children, and parents of each indigent
16 or deceased member who served during a period of war as described
17 in 38 CFR 3.2, except that for purposes of this section, "period of
18 war" for the Vietnam era means the following:

19 (a) February 28, 1961 through May 7, 1975 for a veteran who
20 served during that period.

21 (b) On or after January 31, 1955 in an area of hazardous duty
22 for which the veteran received an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
23 or Vietnam Service Medal.

24 **(2)** Funds raised in accordance with this section may be
25 expended for the relief of indigent ~~wives~~**spouses** and children of
26 active duty soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, **guardians**, coast
27 guardsmen, nurses, and members of the women's auxiliaries during
28 the continuance of present hostilities and ~~prior to~~**before** their
29 discharge. However, in any year which, in the opinion of the board,

1 an emergency exists, the board may appropriate a sum not to exceed
2 2/10 of a mill on each dollar for the purposes of this section. The
3 money, when collected, ~~shall~~**must** be paid to the county treasurer
4 of the county where the tax is levied in each of the counties in
5 this state, to be paid out by the treasurer upon the order of the
6 soldiers' relief commission if signed by the chairperson and
7 secretary of the commission. If any money in the fund is not
8 necessary for the purpose for which it was raised, the money ~~shall~~
9 **must** remain in the treasury of the county as a soldiers' relief
10 fund, and ~~shall~~**must** be considered in raising future sums for this
11 purpose.

12 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
13 unless Senate Joint Resolution ____ or House Joint Resolution F
14 (request no. 00367'23) of the 102nd Legislature becomes a part of
15 the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article
16 XII of the state constitution of 1963.