

Amend CSHB 3426 by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill as appropriate:

SECTION _____. Section 434.007, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 434.007. DUTIES. The commission shall:

(1) compile federal, state, and local laws enacted to benefit members of the armed forces, veterans, and their families and dependents;

(2) collect information relating to:

(A) services and facilities available to veterans; and

(B) the status and quality of health care in veteran facilities, other than veterans homes, operated in this state by this state, the federal government, or a private entity;

(3) not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year:

(A) publish and make available to the public a report on the status and quality of health care in veteran facilities described by Subdivision (2)(B); and

(B) submit the report to both houses of the legislature and the governor;

(4) cooperate with veterans service agencies in the state;

(5) ~~[(4)]~~ inform members and veterans of the armed forces, their families and dependents, and military and civilian authorities about the existence or availability of:

(A) educational training and retraining facilities;

(B) health, medical, rehabilitation, and housing services and facilities;

(C) employment and reemployment services;

(D) provisions of federal, state, and local law affording rights, privileges, and benefits to members and veterans of the armed forces and their families and dependents; and

(E) other similar, related, or appropriate matters;

(6) [~~(5)~~] assist veterans and their families and dependents in presenting, proving, and establishing claims, privileges, rights, and benefits they may have under federal, state, or local law;

(7) [~~(6)~~] cooperate with all government and private agencies securing services or benefits to veterans and their families and dependents;

(8) [~~(7)~~] investigate, and if possible correct, abuses or exploitation of veterans or their families or dependents, and recommend necessary legislation for full correction;

(9) [~~(8)~~] coordinate the services and activities of state departments and divisions having services and resources affecting veterans or their families or dependents; and

(10) [~~(9)~~] provide training and certification of veterans county service officers and assistant veterans county service officers in accordance with Section 434.038.

SECTION _____. Chapter 164, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 164.0052 to read as follows:

Sec. 164.0052. COLLECTING INFORMATION; REPORT. (a) The board shall collect information relating to the status and quality of health care provided to veterans in this state through all veterans homes operated by the state or by a private entity under contract with the state to provide the care.

(b) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the board shall publish a report on the status and quality of health care provided through veterans homes to veterans in this state based on the information collected under Subsection (a). The board shall submit the report to both houses of the legislature and the governor.