

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1660

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to certain unclaimed property of veterans and veterans'  
3 families.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 434.007, Government Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 434.007. DUTIES. The commission shall:

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

11 (2) collect information relating to services and  
12 facilities available to veterans;

13 (3) cooperate with veterans service agencies in the  
14 state;

15 (4) inform members and veterans of the armed forces,  
16 their families and dependents, and military and civilian  
17 authorities about the existence or availability of:

18 (A) educational training and retraining  
19 facilities;

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

22 (C) employment and reemployment services;

23 (D) provisions of federal, state, and local law  
24 affording rights, privileges, and benefits to members and veterans

1 of the armed forces and their families and dependents; and

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

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

8 (6) cooperate with all government and private agencies  
9 securing services or benefits to veterans and their families and  
10 dependents;

11 (7) investigate, and if possible correct, abuses or  
12 exploitation of veterans or their families or dependents, and  
13 recommend necessary legislation for full correction;

14 (8) coordinate the services and activities of state  
15 departments and divisions having services and resources affecting  
16 veterans or their families or dependents;

17 (9) provide training and certification of veterans  
18 county service officers and assistant veterans county service  
19 officers in accordance with Section 434.038; ~~and~~

20 (10) through surveys or other reasonable and accurate  
21 methods of estimation, collect and maintain for each county in the  
22 state the number of servicemembers and veterans residing in the  
23 county and annually update and publish the information on the  
24 commission's website; and

25 (11) with the assistance and cooperation of the  
26 comptroller, inform and assist veterans and their families and  
27 dependents with respect to discovering and initiating claims for

1 unclaimed property held by the United States Department of Veterans  
2 Affairs.

3           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.