

AN ACT

relating to certain unclaimed property of veterans and veterans' families.

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

SECTION 1. 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 services and facilities available to veterans;

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

(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

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.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1660 passed the Senate on April 21, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1660 passed the House on May 20, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor