

CHAPTER 172—H. F. No. 515

An act relating to veterans affairs, the maintenance of military records of veterans, and the duties and responsibilities of certain agencies of the state concerned therewith; and amending Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 196.05.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 196.05, is amended to read as follows:

196.05. **Duties of commissioner.** The commissioner shall:

(1) Act as the agent of any resident of the state having a claim against the United States for a pension, bounty, or back pay arising out of or by reason of any war or any federal military or naval service and prosecute such claim without charge;

(2) Make and preserve, by counties, as a part of the war records' collection, a permanent registry of the graves of all persons who shall have served in the military or naval forces of the United States whose mortal remains may rest in Minnesota;

(3) Administer the laws relating to pensions to Indian War Veterans;

(4) Act as custodian of all veterans' bonus records and perform all duties now imposed upon the adjutant general under laws relating to soldiers' bonus;

(5) Administer the laws relating to

- (a) The burial of veterans,
- (b) The placing of headstones at veterans' graves,
- (c) The providing of markers at veterans' graves for memorial purposes, and
- (d) The furnishing of flags for deceased veterans;

(6) Administer the laws relating to recreational or rest camps for veterans so far as applicable to state agencies;

(7) Administer the State Soldiers' Welfare fund and veterans' relief as administered by the division of social welfare; and all funds hereafter appropriated for the payment of bonuses or other benefits to veterans or for the rehabilitation of veterans;

(8) Cooperate with all national, state, county, municipal, and private social agencies in securing to veterans and their

dependents the benefits provided by national, state, and county laws, municipal ordinances, or public and private social agencies;

(9) Establish and provide such assistance to a war veteran needing hospitalization, but unable to accept hospitalization because the acceptance thereof would imperil his then employment, as would insure employment after hospitalization;

(10) Provide necessary assistance where other adequate aid is not available to the dependent family of a war veteran while such veteran is being hospitalized and afterwards during such period as is necessary;

(11) Act as the guardian for a minor or an incompetent person receiving moneys from the United States Government when no other suitable person will so act;

(12) Cooperate with United States governmental agencies providing compensation, pensions, insurance, or other benefits provided by federal law, by supplementing the benefits prescribed therein, when conditions in an individual case make it necessary;

(13) Perform all the present duties of the Soldiers' Welfare director;

(14) Establish and provide such employment placement and advisement service for disabled veterans as cannot be furnished by cooperation with other free employment agencies;

(15) Contact, at such times as he deems proper, all war veterans, as defined in section 197.45, who are confined in any public institution; investigate the treatment accorded these veterans and report quarterly to the governor the results of such investigations; and the heads of such public institutions shall permit the commissioner, or his representative, to visit any such veterans; and, if the commissioner, or his representative requests any information relative to any such veteran and his affairs, the head of such institution shall furnish the same;

(16) Have such other powers as may be authorized and necessary to carry out the provisions of Laws 1943, Chapter 420.

Approved March 27, 1947.