

## CHAPTER 197

## VETERANS; REWARDS, PRIVILEGES

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**197.01 FUNDS COLLECTED FROM UNITED STATES.** The commissioner of veterans affairs, the board, superintendent, commission, or other administrative body in charge of any state insane hospital, Minnesota State Sanatorium, the University of Minnesota hospitals, or any state institution or in charge of any county hospital or sanatorium for consumptives, whether maintained by one county or by a group of counties in which any persons suffering from disability incurred in or connected with service in the military or naval forces of the United States in the world war are inmates or domiciled, for whose care and maintenance provision is made by the United States government, are hereby authorized and directed to collect from the United States veterans' bureau or other agency of the United States government authorized to pay for the care and support of such persons, the maximum amount allowed and that can be collected for the care, maintenance, and treatment of any and all such ex-service persons.

[1923 c 436 s 1; 1957 c 287 s 3] (4599)

**197.02 FUNDS USED FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF DISABLED SOLDIERS.** The commissioner of veterans affairs, the board, superintendent, commission, or other administrative body in charge of any such hospital, sanatorium, or institution shall retain and pay into the funds of such institution for and on account of such ex-service persons for whose care, maintenance, and treatment an allowance is collected, as provided in section 197.01, from the United States government or any agency of the United States government, out of the moneys so collected, only the average gross per capita cost of maintaining and supporting inmates in any such hospital, sanatorium or other institution and any special or extra expenditures or disbursements made for or in connection with the care and maintenance of such ex-service persons, and shall retain in a separate fund and shall pay to the commissioner of veterans affairs as hereinafter provided, for and on account of the state soldiers' welfare fund established in section 197.03, the excess of such amounts so collected over and above such gross per capita maintenance cost and disbursements and expenditures. The proper officer of each of said institutions shall keep in a book prepared for that purpose a daily record of the ex-service persons actually residing there and domiciled in such institution, and shall make monthly reports thereof to the commissioner of veterans affairs.

The governing board, commission, or administrative head of any such institution shall, on or before the tenth day of every month, transmit to the commissioner of veterans affairs the excess of such amounts so collected over and above such

gross per capita costs and disbursements and he shall pay into the state soldiers' welfare fund the sums so received from any such institution, and the excess of the sums collected by it as herein provided for from the United States government or any agency thereof, in excess over and above such gross per capita maintenance cost and disbursements.

[1923 c. 436 s. 2] (4600)

**197.03 STATE SOLDIERS' WELFARE FUND CREATED.** There is hereby created a state soldiers' welfare fund to aid and assist any citizen of Minnesota who served in the military or naval forces of the United States, in securing compensation, hospitalization, medical treatment, insurance or other relief or benefits to which he may be entitled from the United States or any other government or state and for the emergency relief, hospitalization, treatment and maintenance of all such persons who were bona fide residents of the state at the time their need arose and his dependents as hereinafter provided.

[1923 c. 436 s. 3; 1929 c. 327] (4601)

**197.04 COMPOSITION OF FUND.** The state soldiers' welfare fund shall consist of all sums paid to or received by the commissioner of veterans affairs under the provisions of sections 197.01 to 197.07 and of any and all moneys and properties that may be appropriated, donated, given, bequeathed, or devised to the state soldiers' welfare fund or to the commissioner of veterans affairs for the benefit of the fund.

[1923 c. 436 s. 4; 1929 c. 327] (4602)

**197.05 FUND, HOW EXPENDED.** The state soldiers' welfare fund shall be administered by the commissioner of veterans affairs and shall be used to locate and investigate the facts as to any citizen of Minnesota who served in the military or naval forces of the United States and who is indigent or suffering from any disability whether acquired in such service or not; to assist any such person and his dependents as hereinafter provided in establishing and proving any just claim he may have against the United States government, or any other government or state for compensation, insurance, relief, or other benefits, and to provide emergency hospitalization, treatment, maintenance, and relief for any such person suffering from disability who was a bona fide resident of the state at the time his need arose and his dependents, as hereinafter provided, and to cooperate with other state, municipal, and county officials and civic or civilian agencies or organizations in carrying out the provisions of sections 197.01 to 197.07.

Such fund is hereby appropriated to be used in such manner as the commissioner of veterans affairs may determine for such purposes.

[1923 c. 436 s. 5; 1929 c. 327] (4603)

**197.06 SOLDIERS' WELFARE AGENT.** The commissioner of veterans affairs shall have charge of activities hereunder, and may employ such assistants and incur such other expenses as may be necessary for the administration of said state soldiers' welfare fund and carrying out the provisions of sections 197.01 to 197.07; provided, that no expense shall be incurred under the provisions of sections 197.01 to 197.07 in excess of the moneys available to such state soldiers' welfare fund. The commissioner of veterans affairs may be appointed, by the probate court, guardian of the person or estate or both of any former service man or woman for whom or for whose estate or for both the appointment of a guardian is found by the court to be necessary, and when so appointed and qualified may act as such. Any compensation received by him for so acting shall be paid into and become a part of the state soldiers' welfare fund.

The duties and powers of the commissioner of veterans affairs, in addition to those otherwise provided, shall be to:

- (1) Administer the state soldiers' welfare fund;
- (2) Cooperate with all national, state, county, municipal and private social agencies in securing to former soldiers and their dependents the benefits provided by national, state, and county laws, municipal ordinances, or public and private social agencies;
- (3) Establish and provide such assistance to a former soldier needing hospitalization but unable to accept it because the acceptance thereof would imperil his then employment, as would insure employment after hospitalization;
- (4) Provide necessary assistance where other adequate aid is not available to

the dependent family of a former soldier while such is being hospitalized and afterwards during such period as is necessary;

(5) Act as guardian for minors and incompetent persons receiving moneys from the United States government when no other suitable person will consent to act;

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

(7) Establish and provide such employment, placement, and advisement service for disabled veterans as cannot be furnished by cooperation with other free public employment agencies.

[1923 c. 436 s. 6; 1925 c. 88; 1929 c. 327] (4604)

**197.07 SOLDIERS' WELFARE FUND DEPOSITED IN STATE TREASURY.**

The soldiers' welfare fund shall be deposited in the state treasury and paid out only in such vouchers as may be authorized and approved by the commissioner of veterans affairs in the same manner and under the same restrictions as are now provided by law for the disbursement of funds by him.

[1923 c. 436 s. 7] (4605)

**197.09 EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.** The sum appropriated under the provisions of Laws 1935, Chapter 350, shall be used for the sole purpose of providing for matriculation fees, board and room rent and books and supplies for the use and benefit of the children of those residents of Minnesota for at least six months prior to entering active service who were killed in action or died from other causes during World War I, from April 6, 1917, to July 2, 1921, while serving in the armed forces of the United States or as a result of such service, which children are attending or may attend the University of Minnesota, a state college, a junior college, or any other college within the state, accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and secondary schools, a law college approved by the supreme court, a nursing school approved by the state nurses examining board, or in a trade school in the state which may be approved by the state department of education, or in a theological seminary, for any course which such child may elect provided such child was domiciled in Minnesota for at least two years immediately prior to applying for benefits hereunder. These children shall be admitted to state institutions of college grade free of tuition.

[1935 c 350 s 1; 1947 c 176 s 4; 1951 c 486 s 1; 1955 c 44 s 1; 1957 c 576 s 1, 2] (4397-21)

**197.10 MONEYS PAID TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.** The amounts that may be or may become due to any educational or training institution, not in excess of the amount specified in section 197.11, shall be payable to such institution from the fund hereby created on vouchers approved by the commissioner of veterans affairs. He shall determine the eligibility of the children who may make application for the benefits provided for in sections 197.09 to 197.11; satisfy himself of the attendance of such children at any such institution and of the accuracy of the charges submitted to him by the authorities of any such institution, on account of the attendance thereof of any such children.

[1935 c. 350 s. 2] (4397-22)

**197.11 LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS.** Not more than \$250 shall be paid under the provisions of sections 197.09 to 197.11 for any one child for any one year.

[1935 c 350 s 3; 1947 c 176 s 5] (4397-23)

**197.12** [Obsolete]

**197.13 LAND SECURED FOR RECREATION CAMPS FOR DISABLED VETERANS.** The board of governors created by section 197.14 is hereby authorized and directed to purchase Big Island, Lake Minnetonka, and all buildings and other appurtenances thereon, on which is presently located the Big Island Veterans Camp, and which is described as follows: Government Lot One (1), Section Fourteen (14), Township One Hundred Seventeen (117), Range Twenty-three (23); Government Lot Two (2), Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Seventeen (117), Range Twenty-three (23); and that part of Government Lot Three (3), Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Seventeen (117), Range Twenty-three (23), commencing at the Northeast corner of said Government Lot Three (3), Section Twenty-three (23); thence Southwesterly along the lake shore to the North-

east corner of Lot A, Morse Island Park; thence South 350 feet to Lake Minnetonka; thence East along the shore of Lake Minnetonka to the East line of said Lot Three (3); thence North to the place of beginning, for the establishment and maintenance of a recreation and recuperative camp for the use and benefit of disabled veterans of the world war and other wars, resident in the state. Title to said land, buildings, and other appurtenances shall be held in the name of the board of governors of the Big Island Veterans Camp. Any funds derived from any appropriations, contributions, unexpended balances, or revenues heretofore or hereafter existing to the credit of any such veterans' camp operating under the provisions of sections 197.13 to 197.17 may be used for the purchase of land for such camp.

[1923 c 309 s 1; 1941 c 514; 1947 c 72 s 1] (4393)

**197.14 BOARD OF GOVERNORS CREATED; MEMBERSHIP.** There is hereby established a board of governors to be known as the Board of Governors of the Big Island Veterans Camp who shall have and exercise supervision, care, control, and management of such recreation and recuperation camp, which board shall consist of ten members who shall be selected and appointed as follows: two members thereof shall be selected and appointed by the state department of the American Legion, two members thereof shall be selected and appointed by the state department of the veterans of foreign wars of the United States, two members thereof shall be selected and appointed by the state department of the United Spanish war veterans, two members thereof shall be selected and appointed by the state department of the disabled American veterans of the world war, one member thereof shall be selected and appointed by but not from the board of county commissioners of the county wherein the recreation and recuperative camp is located, and one member, who shall act as the chairman of the board of governors, shall be selected and appointed by the commissioner of veterans affairs. Each member of the board of governors shall be appointed for a term of two years or until the appointment and qualification of his successor. The terms shall commence and shall expire on the first Monday in January. Provided, however, that the organizations which are authorized to appoint two members to the board of governors shall, for the terms commencing in January, 1948, appoint one such member for a term of one year, thereafter all appointments shall be made for a term of two years. Any vacancies at any time occurring in the board of governors shall be filled by appointment in like manner as hereinbefore provided for members of the board.

[1923 c 309 s 2; 1947 c 72 s 2] (4394)

**197.15 POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD.** The board of governors shall have full power and authority to formulate, make, and enforce all rules and regulations necessary for the proper management, control, and use of such veterans' recreation and recuperation camp; it shall have the authority to engage and to fix the compensation of manager and such employees and others as may be necessary for the care and operation of such camp, and to make such expenditures for the procurement of such incidentals as may advance the health and pleasure of the beneficiaries hereunder as may be necessary. Expenditures shall be made with the approval and upon the order of the chairman of the board of governors. The board of governors, in January of each year, shall make and file with commissioner of veterans affairs a report, together with its recommendations, covering its activities in the management and operation of this recreation and recuperation camp, including the extent of the use of the camp for the purpose intended and the benefits resulting therefrom during the preceding year.

[1923 c 309 s 3; 1947 c 72 s 3] (4395)

**197.16 COMMISSIONER TO MANAGE APPROPRIATION.** The commissioner of veterans affairs shall have the management and control of all state appropriations made for the use and benefit of such recreation and recuperation camp, and all expenditures made from such appropriations, but shall put such funds at the disposal of the board of governors as may from time to time be needed for the proper conduct of such camp and to advance the purpose of sections 197.13 to 197.17. Expenditures shall be made from the fund with the approval and upon the order of the chairman of the board of governors. The commissioner of veterans affairs and the chairman of the board of governors of the camp shall make requests for such appropriations from the legislature as may be deemed necessary with which to make appropriate improvements on the tract of land to be used for such camp, and with

which properly to carry out the purposes of sections 197.13 to 197.17 and shall appear before the proper committee of the legislature to explain the requests. The commissioner of veterans affairs, or the board of governors, is hereby empowered to accept such donations, contributions, gifts, and bequests of real or personal property as may be made to it in order to further the purposes of sections 197.13 to 197.17, and to carry out such trusts thereby created as may not be inconsistent with the purposes of sections 197.13 to 197.17; the commissioner of veterans affairs may delegate such duties to the board of governors as he sees fit.

[1923 c 309 s 4; 1947 c 72 s 4; 1969 c 275 s 5] (4396)

**197.17 WHO ARE ENTITLED TO BENEFITS.** All disabled American veterans of the world war and other wars, who are residents of the state, shall be entitled to the advantages and privileges of such recreation and recuperation camp. The term "disabled American veterans," as used in sections 197.13 to 197.17, means and includes all veterans having a disability recognized as such by the United States government. The board of governors may extend the advantages and privileges of such recreation and recuperation camp to such classes of sick, ailing, or unfortunate ex-service men as it deems advisable from time to time.

[1923 c. 309 s. 5] (4397)

**197.18 APPROPRIATION FOR OPERATION OF VETERANS' REST CAMPS.** The board of public welfare or similar welfare body of any city and county in this state may annually expend an amount not in excess of \$9,000 in the operation and maintenance of a rest camp now being operated or which hereafter may be located or operated within such county or outside the limits thereof, for disabled or needy American war veterans and their families having a legal settlement in such county, and for such other disabled and needy veterans and their families, whose cost of maintenance while at the camp is paid by the state or some other person or agency.

[1929 c. 312 s. 1; 1937 c. 73 s. 1] (4397-1)

**197.19 CERTAIN COUNTY BOARDS MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR REST CAMPS.** The board of county commissioners of any county having a population of over 500,000, in which a rest camp for disabled American war veterans is being operated, may annually expend an amount not in excess of the sum of \$3,000 to assist in the operation and maintenance of the rest camp.

[1931 c. 324] (4397-2)

**197.20** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.21** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.211** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.22** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.23 MAY PROVIDE MARKERS.** The commissioner of veterans affairs shall, upon the petition of any five reputable freeholders of any township or municipality, or of any patriotic or ex-servicemen's organization, procure for and furnish to the petitioners some suitable and appropriate metal socket and an appropriate marker for the grave of each and every soldier, sailor, marine, or nurse who served with honor in the forces of the United States and who is buried within the limits of the state, to be placed on the grave of such soldier, sailor, marine, or nurse for the purpose of permanently marking and designating the grave for memorial purposes.

[1909 c 299 s 1; 1931 c 363 s 4; 1969 c 275 s 6] (4373)

**197.24** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.25-197.30** [Obsolete]

**197.31** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.32** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.33** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.34** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.35** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.36** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.37** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.38** [Repealed, 1965 c 47 s 1]

**197.39** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

**197.40** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

**197.41** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.42 [Repealed, 1961 c 561 s 17]

197.43 [Repealed, 1961 c 561 s 17]

197.44 [Repealed, 1961 c 561 s 17]

**197.447 VETERAN, DEFINED.** The word "veteran" as used in sections 196.02, 196.07, 197.59, 197.601, 282.031, 282.032, and 306.03 means any person honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States who served in the Civil War, Spanish American War, Philippine Insurrection, China Relief Expedition, World War I between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, both dates inclusive, on or after December 7, 1941 until final cessation of all hostilities as determined by the proper state authorities in order to give recognition for service performed in the following hostile actions: World War II, Korean conflict, Lebanon crisis, Berlin crisis, Quemoy and Matsu, Taiwan Straits, Cuban crisis, the Congo, Laos, the Dominican Republic and Vietnam, and to include service therein but not to exclude persons who did not have service in those areas. The word "veteran" does not include a person enlisted and accepted for active training only for a period of six months or less.

[1955 c 4 s 1; 1967 c 222 s 1; 1969 c 275 s 7, 12]

## VETERANS, OTHER PROVISIONS

**197.45 PREFERENCE IN PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS.** Subdivision 1. **Veteran defined.** The word "veteran" as used in this section and section 197.46 means any man or woman honorably discharged from the army, navy, marine corps, or Women's Auxiliary Army Corps of the United States in the Civil War, Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, China Relief Expedition, or any armed expedition for which Congress has awarded a campaign badge or medal, World War wherein the United States of America and the allied nations of England, France, and others were engaged in war against the Imperial German Government and its allies, and any other person who, on or after December 7, 1941, has been honorably discharged or separated from any branch of the armed forces of the United States (1) after having served on active duty for other than training purposes or (2) by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty, who is a citizen of the United States, and has been a resident of the state of Minnesota and of the county, city, town, village, school district, or political subdivision thereof to which application is made for five years immediately preceding his application, or who enlisted from the state of Minnesota, and persons who served in the active military or naval service of any government allied with the United States in World War I or World War II, and have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who are citizens of the United States and were such citizens at the time of entrance into such active service, and have been residents of the state of Minnesota five years immediately preceding their application or who enlisted from the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Preference to war veterans in public appointments.** That in every public department and upon all public works in the state of Minnesota and the counties, cities, towns, villages, school districts, and all other political subdivisions and agencies thereof, honorably discharged veterans shall be entitled to preference in appointments, employment and promotion over other applicants therefor, and the persons thus preferred shall not be disqualified from holding any position hereinbefore mentioned on account of his age or by reason of any physical disability, provided such age and disability does not render him incompetent to perform properly the duties of the position applied for and when such veteran shall apply for appointment or employment under sections 197.45 and 197.46, the officer, board or person whose duty it is, or may be, to appoint or employ such person to fill such position or place, shall before appointing or employing anyone to fill such position or place, except where said veteran has already been qualified under civil service for the position applied for, make an investigation as to the qualifications of said veteran for such place or position, and if he is of good moral character, and can perform the duties of said position applied for by him, as hereinbefore provided, said officer, board or person shall appoint said veteran to such position or place of employment.

In any governmental agency having an established civil service or merit system, no inquiry shall be made of any applicant for examination before such examination as to whether or not he is a veteran, nor shall any distinction be made in giving the examination or grading the results thereof on account of the fact that the applicant may be a veteran; provided, that this shall not abridge any preference to which such veteran is entitled. All governmental agencies when notifying

the applicant that he has passed, shall inform the applicant of the right of a veteran to preference. The proper civil service or merit system authority shall certify his appointment and the appointing authority shall appoint such veteran before any other person is certified or appointed to fill a position for which the veteran has passed the examination.

A refusal to allow the preference provided for in this and the next succeeding section to any such honorably discharged veteran, or a reduction of his compensation intended to bring about his resignation or discharge, shall entitle such honorably discharged veteran to a right of action therefor in any court of competent jurisdiction for damages, and such officer and the persons responsible for such refusal if such refusal was wilful shall be personally liable therefor, and also for a remedy for mandamus for righting the wrong.

**Subd. 3. Promotional examinations.** In any governmental agency having an established civil service or merit system where an applicant is a veteran and he has passed the promotional examination, he may elect to have a credit of five points to the examination rating. The decision to make such election may be made either before or after the examination. If the election is made and the promotion is gained, such election shall preclude the use of a five point preference in further promotions. The name of the veteran or disabled veteran with such augmented rating shall be placed on the list of eligibles along with other eligible persons for the position or place, but the name of the veteran shall be entered ahead of a non-veteran when the ratings are the same.

**Subd. 4. Widows to have rights and privileges.** The widows of deceased veterans and the spouses of disabled veterans who, because of such disability, are unable to qualify, shall have all the rights and privileges given to a veteran by this section or by section 197.46.

[1907 c 263 s 1; 1917 c 499 s 1; 1919 c 14; 1919 c 192 s 1; 1937 c 121; *Ex*1937 c 6 s 1; 1943 c 230 s 1; 1945 c 502 s 1; 1949 c 687 s 1; 1953 c 699 s 6; *Ex*1967 c 4 s 2] (4368)

NOTE: Laws 1957, Chapter 741 relating to cities of first class of not more than 150,000, section 6 thereof, reads:

"The provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Sections 197.45, 197.46, 197.47 and 197.48 are hereby superseded by the provisions of this chapter insofar as they may be inconsistent."

As to veterans employed by St. Cloud, see Laws 1967, Chapter 607.

**197.46 VETERANS PREFERENCE ACT; REMOVAL FORBIDDEN; RIGHT OF MANDAMUS.** Any person whose rights may be in any way prejudiced contrary to any of the provisions of this section, shall be entitled to a writ of mandamus to remedy the wrong. No person holding a position by appointment or employment in the state of Minnesota or in the several counties, cities, towns, villages, school districts and all other political subdivisions or agencies thereof, who is an honorably discharged veteran, shall be removed from such position or employment except for incompetency or misconduct shown after a hearing, upon due notice, upon stated charges, in writing. In all governmental subdivisions having an established civil service board or commission, or merit system authority, such hearing for removal or discharge shall be held before such civil service board or commission or merit system authority. Where no such civil service board or commission or merit system authority exists, such hearing shall be held by a board of three persons appointed as follows: one by the governmental subdivision, one by the veteran, and the third by the two so selected. In the event the two persons so selected do not appoint the third person within ten days after the appointment of the last of the two, then the judge of the district court of the county wherein the proceeding is pending, or if there be more than one judge in said county then any judge in chambers, shall have jurisdiction to appoint, and upon application of either or both of the two so selected shall appoint, the third person to the board and the person so appointed by the judge with the two first selected shall constitute the board. The veteran may appeal from the decision of the board upon the charges to the district court by causing written notice of appeal, stating the grounds thereof, to be served upon the governmental subdivision or officer making the charges within 15 days after notice of the decision and by filing the original notice of appeal with proof of service thereof in the office of the clerk of the district court within ten days after service thereof. Nothing in sections 197.45 and 197.46 shall be construed to apply to the position of private secretary, teacher, superintendent of schools, or one chief deputy of any elected official or head of a department, or to any person holding a strictly confidential relation to the appointing officer. The burden of establishing such relationship shall be upon the appointing officer in all proceedings and actions relating thereto.

All officers, boards, commissions, and employees shall conform to, comply with, and aid in all proper ways in carrying into effect the provisions of sections 197.45 and 197.46. Any wilful violation of such sections by officers, officials, or employees is a misdemeanor.

[1907 c 263 s 2; 1917 c 499 s 1; 1919 c 14 s 1; 1919 c 192 s 2; 1937 c 121; *Ex*1937 c 6 s 2; 1943 c 230 s 2; 1945 c 502 s 2; 1961 c 566 s 1] (4369)

NOTE: See note to Section 197.45.

**197.47 VETERANS PREFERENCE ACT.** The provisions of sections 197.45 and 197.46, known as the "Veterans' Preference Law," shall apply to and govern any appointment, employment, promotion, and removal of all employees of the state and of all other governmental agencies within the state enumerated in said sections, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any other existing law or in any city charter relating thereto.

[1931 c. 347 s. 1] (4369-1)

NOTE: See note to Section 197.45.

**197.48 APPLICATION.** No provision of any subsequent act relating to any such appointment, employment, promotion, or removal shall be construed as inconsistent herewith or with any provision of sections 197.45 and 197.46 unless and except only so far as expressly provided in such subsequent act that the provisions of these sections shall not be applicable or shall be superseded, modified, amended, or repealed. Every city charter provision hereafter adopted which is inconsistent herewith or with any provision of these sections shall be void to the extent of such inconsistency.

[1931 c. 347 s. 2] (4369-2)

NOTE: See note to Section 197.45.

**197.49 INSURANCE BENEFITS OF DECEASED TO PASS TO NEXT OF KIN ON DISAPPEARANCE OF WIFE OF VETERAN.** When a resident of the state shall have died intestate when serving in the military or naval forces of the United States of America during the world war, and whose spouse shall have deserted him prior to his enlistment, and the whereabouts of the spouse shall have been unknown for a period of 20 years or more last past, then such spouse shall be presumed to have pre-deceased him, and any and all benefits due and payable to his estate under and by virtue of any war risk insurance act or acts amendatory thereto shall descend to the next of kin as of the date of the death of any such enlisted person, and such estate shall be distributed as provided by the laws of the state for the distribution of the estate of persons dying intestate.

[*Ex*1937 c 13 s 1] (4397-28)

**197.50** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

**197.51** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

**197.52** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

**197.53** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.54** [Repealed, 1961 c 561 s 17]

**197.55 QUARTERS FOR MEETINGS OF VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS.** The governor of this state, or any other legal custodian of public buildings within the state, shall, when not inconsistent with the public interests to set aside any portion of the public buildings for the use and occupation as quarters and places for holding their stated or special meetings or assemblies, to all posts of the grand army of the republic, commanderies of the loyal legion, camps or posts of the veterans of the Philippine or Spanish-American wars, and any other post, commandery, camp or association, local or state, of veterans of any war in which the United States has been engaged, which may be organized in the city, town or county in which the building or buildings may be situated. Upon 20 days written notice, duly served upon the proper officer or officers of any said organizations, by the governor or any other legal custodian, that the public buildings, rooms, or quarters are required for public use, the same shall be promptly and quietly vacated.

[1905 c. 37 s. 1; 1911 c. 107 s. 1] (4382)

**197.56 USE OF QUARTERS.** Such organization shall have the equal and free use of all such quarters, under such rules and regulations and upon such conditions as may be prescribed by the governor or by such custodian. All reasonable and proper facilities, so far as possible, shall at all times be furnished therein by any local post, commandery, camp, or association, which may occupy the same, for any state or national gathering of war veterans.

[1905 c. 37 s. 2] (4383)

**197.57 QUARTERS, HOW MAINTAINED.** Such quarters shall be furnished and maintained at the expense of such organizations as may occupy them under the provisions of section 197.55; provided, that if the building in which such quarters are assigned is heated and lighted at public expense, these quarters shall be so heated and lighted without cost to the organizations.

[1905 c. 37 s. 3] (4384)

**197.58 STATE TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS.** The commissioner of administration shall set apart space in the state veterans service building, for the use of each of the following veteran organizations: the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, United Spanish War Veterans, and Veterans of World War I, and their auxiliaries, incorporated, or when incorporated, under the laws of the state. Such space shall be under the charge of the Minnesota state commander of the department of Minnesota of the veteran organization assigned thereto, and such person as he may in writing designate, and shall be used for the purpose of keeping therein records, archives, trophies, supplies, and other veteran property of the organization and as its general headquarters office for the department of Minnesota.

[1929 c 434; 1969 c 275 s 8] (4384-2)

**197.59 HAWKING OR PEDDLING; EXEMPTION FROM LICENSE FEES; MUNICIPAL LICENSING; PENALTY FOR UNLAWFUL ISSUANCE OF LICENSE.** No license fee or other charge provided by any law of the state shall be required by any veteran for the privilege of hawking or peddling goods and merchandise, not prohibited by law or ordinance, in the county where he has established a bona fide residence, solely upon his own account. Nothing herein contained prevents any city, village, borough, or other municipality from levying and collecting such license fees for hawking or peddling within its corporate limits. Upon application therefor, accompanied by proof of such discharge, to any clerk or other officer authorized to issue such license, the same shall forthwith be granted. Every such clerk or other officer issuing such license shall ascertain that the applicant is entitled thereto; and any such clerk or other officer issuing a license to any person who is not entitled to receive one under the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Every violation hereof is a misdemeanor, the minimum punishment whereof is a fine of \$10.

[R L s 1849; 1907 c 393 s 1; 1917 c 230 s 1; 1919 c 415 s 1; 1921 c 434 s 1; 1925 c 236 s 1; 1935 c 281 s 1; 1947 c 170 s 1; 1953 c 699 s 7; 1955 c 4 s 2] (4367)

**197.60 VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS; APPOINTMENT; COMPENSATION.** Subdivision 1. The county board of any county may appoint a veterans service officer and may provide necessary clerical help, office space, equipment, and supplies for him, together with reimbursement for mileage and other traveling expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his duties; and may appoint one or more assistant veterans service officers who shall have the qualifications prescribed in section 197.601, subdivision 1. The assistant veterans service officer may exercise all the powers, and shall perform the duties, of the veterans service officer, subject to his direction and control, and shall be subject to all the provisions of sections 197.60 to 197.606 relating to a veterans service officer. Every county officer and agency shall cooperate with the veterans service officer and shall provide him with information necessary in connection with the performance of his duties.

Subd. 2. Except as otherwise prescribed in sections 197.60 to 197.606, the term of appointment of a veterans service officer appointed pursuant to this section shall be two years unless removed for cause upon written charges and after a hearing thereon.

Subd. 3. Except as otherwise prescribed in sections 197.60 to 197.606, the county board shall fix the compensation of the veterans service officer and assistant veterans service officers which shall be paid in the same manner and at the same time as the county officers.

Subd. 4. In each county employing a veterans service officer, the county board may levy a tax annually sufficient to defray the estimated cost of all salaries and expenses necessarily incident to the performance by the veterans service officer of his duties during the succeeding year, and to make up any deficiency in the fund raised for that purpose during the preceding year in any county which has a population of 150,000 or less. The tax so levied may be levied in excess of and

over and above all taxing limitations, including, but not restricted to, limitations based upon population or mill rates.

[1945 c 96 s 1; 1947 c 408 s 1; 1949 c 583 s 1]

**197.601 QUALIFICATIONS OF VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS.** No person shall be appointed a veterans service officer under sections 197.60 to 197.606 unless he has the following qualifications:

(1) Residence in the state of Minnesota for at least five years prior to his appointment;

(2) Citizenship in the United States;

(3) Veteran as defined in section 197.447;

(4) Education and training for the duties of veterans service officer;

(5) Knowledge of the law and the regulations and rulings of the United States Veterans Administration applicable to cases before it and the administration thereof.

[1945 c 96 s 2; 1953 c 699 s 8; 1955 c 4 s 4]

**197.602 JOINT ACTION BY TWO OR MORE COUNTIES.** The county boards of two or more contiguous counties may make a written agreement, executed on behalf of the several county boards by the respective chairmen and secretaries thereof, whereby the counties may jointly employ a veterans service officer. The agreement shall specify the compensation to be paid to the veterans service officer, the amount thereof to be paid by each county, the number of days per month to be worked by him in each county, the percentage of the total amount of compensation to be paid by each county, the amount of travel and other expenses to be paid by each county, and such other terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the counties.

[1945 c. 96 s. 3]

**197.603 DUTIES.** It shall be the duty of the veterans service officer to aid all residents of the governmental subdivision by which he is employed in securing benefits provided by law on account of the service of any person in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, from which he has a discharge other than dishonorable.

[1945 c. 96 s. 4]

**197.604 UNLAWFUL TO PAY FEE.** Subdivision 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to pay any veterans service officer or any employee under him or for any veterans service officer or employee under him to receive any fee directly or indirectly for any service rendered in securing any benefit referred to in section 197.603.

Subd. 2. Any person who shall commit an act unlawful under subdivision 1 of this section shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[1945 c. 96 s. 5]

**197.605 SUPERVISION.** Subdivision 1. Every veterans service officer appointed under sections 197.60 to 197.606 shall be under the general supervision of the commissioner of veterans' affairs as to methods of operation.

Subd. 2. Every veterans service officer appointed under sections 197.60 to 197.606 shall use the department of veterans affairs or any organization recognized by the United States Veterans Administration, as may be designated by the veteran by power of attorney, in the presentation of claims to the United States Veterans' Administration for the benefits referred to in section 197.603.

Subd. 3. The commissioner of veterans affairs shall have authority to prescribe such rules or regulations as are necessary for compliance with this section and the efficient uniform administration of sections 197.60 to 197.606. Such rules or regulations shall not apply to the appointment, tenure, compensation, or working conditions of a veterans service officer appointed under sections 197.60 to 197.606.

[1945 c. 96 s. 6]

**197.606 CLASSED AS COUNTY EMPLOYEES.** Veterans service officers and assistant veterans service officers appointed under sections 197.60 to 197.606 are employees of the counties by which they are employed, and are under the exclusive jurisdiction and control of such counties and the department of veterans affairs as herein provided.

[1945 c. 96 s. 7]

**197.607 [Expired]**

**197.63 VITAL STATISTICS RECORDS, CERTIFIED COPIES.** Subdivision 1. Issuance without charge. A certified copy of a birth, death, marriage, divorce

record, or certified copy of veteran's discharge recorded pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 386.20, shall be issued promptly by the officer charged with the keeping of such records upon the request of, and without any charge to, any veteran, the surviving spouse or next of kin thereof, service officers of any veterans organization chartered by the Congress of the United States, or the Department of Veterans Affairs, for use in the presentation of claims to the United States Veterans Administration or in connection with any such veterans organization or the Department of Veterans Affairs. The word "veteran" as used in this section means any man or woman who is a veteran as defined in Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 197.45, and who is a citizen of the United States.

**Subd. 2. Payment of fees.** When the salary of the officer issuing a certified copy under this section consists in whole or in part of fees authorized by law, such officer shall be paid the legal fee therefor by the governmental subdivision of which he is an officer, and the governing body thereof is authorized and directed to order such payment made from the general revenue funds thereof.

[1945 c 19 s 1, 2; 1947 c 169 s 1; 1953 c 699 s 9]

**197.64 VETERANS REFERRAL CENTER.** Subdivision 1. Any city of the second class may appropriate not more than \$4,000 in any one year for the maintenance of a veterans referral center operated under the direction of a bona fide county veterans service committee; in the event any such city makes such appropriation, the county board of the county wherein such city is located may by resolution appropriate for the maintenance of such veterans referral center not more than \$8,000 in any one year, and the governing body of any such city and such county may make a written agreement or agreements fixing the percentage of the total cost and expense of maintaining such veterans referral center to be paid by each.

**Subd. 2.** All officers and employees of, and all other persons serving in or acting for or on behalf of, such veterans referral center who shall aid, or undertake to aid, any resident of such county in securing benefits provided by law on account of the service of any person in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps from which he has a discharge other than dishonorable, shall be under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs as to methods of operation and shall be subject to the requirements, restrictions, and penalties of, and shall comply with, the provisions of Laws 1945, Chapter 96, Sections 5, 6, in the same respect and to the same extent as veterans service officers and their employees are subject to, and are governed by, said provisions.

**Subd. 3.** In the event the county board of any such county appoints a veterans service officer, such veterans referral center and all officers and employees thereof and all other persons serving in or acting for or on behalf of such veterans referral center who shall aid, or undertake to aid, any resident of such county in securing benefits provided by law on account of the service of any person in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps from which he has a discharge other than dishonorable shall be subject to the direction and control of the veterans service officer.

[1945 c 499 s 1; 1959 c 58 s 1]

**197.71** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.72** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.73** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.74** [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

**197.75 EXPENDITURES, LIMITATION.** Subdivision 1. The commissioner of veterans affairs shall spend a biennial appropriation for tuition of soldiers, and for tuition, fees, board, room, books and supplies of the children of soldiers who have died as a result of their service in the military or naval forces of the United States as determined by the United States Veterans Administration or other instrumentality of the United States, in the University of Minnesota, a state college, a junior college, or any other college of higher learning within the state accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, a law college approved by the supreme court, a nursing school approved by the state nurses examining board, or in a trade school in the state which may be approved by the state department of education, or in a theological seminary, for any course which such soldier or child may elect. Not more than \$250, less such amount as may have been granted such soldier under section 197.74, shall be expended for the benefit of any individual soldier, and not more than \$250 in any calendar year shall be expended for the bene-

fit of any child under this section, and that need therefor shall be established and determined by the commissioner of veterans affairs. No child of any soldier shall make application for the benefits provided herein unless such child shall have resided in Minnesota for at least two years immediately prior to the date of said application. Children of soldiers eligible for benefits hereunder shall be admitted to state institutions of college grade free of tuition. Payments of tuition as provided for herein shall be made by the commissioner of veterans affairs directly to the institution in which the course of instruction is given upon such conditions as shall be imposed by the commissioner of veterans affairs.

Subd. 2. None of the provisions of subdivision 1, shall be made available to any soldier who is entitled to the same or similar benefits under any law of the United States, rule or regulation of any department thereof, now in force or hereafter created, unless said soldier shall have exhausted the benefits he is entitled to under the laws of the United States, in which event he shall be entitled to the benefits provided for by subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. Each such institution shall certify to the commissioner of veterans affairs of the state the names of all applicants for benefits under this section who have presented to such institution an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States or proof of the service of the parent of such applicant.

Subd. 4. Each such institution shall make triplicate lists of such applicants, showing the name of each applicant, the course selected, and the charge for tuition for such course which shall be not more than the regular charge, and file the same with the commissioner of veterans affairs, who shall check such lists with such records as are on file in his office or as can be procured from reliable sources; the commissioner of veterans affairs shall thereupon certify to such institution the names of the applicants on such lists who are eligible for the benefits provided for in sections 197.71 to 197.77. At the end of each semester or term, each institution shall certify one of such lists certified to such institution by the commissioner of veterans affairs, showing the period each student listed thereon has attended and the proportion and amount of tuition applicable to such semester or term, and file the same with the commissioner of veterans affairs, who shall check such list and, if correct, authorize payment of the amounts due thereon in the manner provided by law.

Subd. 5. The word "soldier" as used in this section means any man or woman who shall have been engaged in active service as a part of the military or naval forces of the United States in the war between the United States and Germany, Japan, Italy, and their Allies, or the Korean Conflict, and who was a resident of the state of Minnesota at the time he was commissioned, enlisted, inducted, appointed, or mustered into the military or naval service, and who has been or may be given an honorable or ordinary discharge from such service; provided that such service in the war between the United States and Germany, Japan, Italy, and their Allies, shall have been given wholly or in part between December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946, both dates inclusive, or in the Korean Conflict between June 27, 1950 and January 31, 1955, and shall have continued for not less than 90 days unless terminated sooner by disability due to service in the military or naval forces.

[1943 c 663 s 5; 1945 c 235 s 2; 1947 c 176 s 2, 3; 1953 c 108 s 1; 1955 c 45 s 1; 1957 c 576 s 1, 2; 1957 c 258 s 2; 1969 c 275 s 9, 10]

197.751 [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

197.76 [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

197.77 [Repealed, 1969 c 275 s 12]

197.80 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.81 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.82 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.83 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.84 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.85 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.851 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.852 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.86 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.87 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

197.88 [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]

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- 197.89** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.90** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.91** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.92** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.93** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.94** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.95** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.96** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]
- 197.97** [Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73]