



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 5296

LCO No. 1362



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING ADMISSIONS TO THE VETERANS' HOME OR TO A HOSPITAL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 27-108 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

3 (a) Any veteran, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who
4 meets active military, naval or air service requirements, as [defined]
5 described in 38 USC 101, may apply for admission to the home; and
6 any such veteran who has no adequate means of support, and who,
7 from disease, wounds or accident, needs medical or surgical care and
8 treatment or who has become mentally ill, [and who has no adequate
9 means of support,] may be admitted to any hospital and receive
10 necessary food, clothing, care and treatment therein, at the expense of
11 the state, [unless other funds or means of payment are available]
12 provided such hospital shall certify that it has taken sufficient steps to
13 determine that no other funds or means of payment are available for
14 such veteran. Such veteran shall have preference for admission into
15 such hospital.

16 (b) Any member or former member of the armed forces, as defined
17 in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who is a resident of this state and is
18 entitled to retirement pay under 10 USC Chapter 1223, may apply for
19 admission to the home.

20 (c) Any such veteran desiring care or treatment under the
21 provisions of this chapter shall make application under oath to the
22 Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs; but, if, by reason of his or her
23 physical condition, he or she is unable to make such application, some
24 other veteran may make such application in his or her behalf. Said
25 commissioner, or his or her designee, shall have sole power to
26 determine whether such veteran is entitled to admission to the home,
27 [or to a hospital, and such] Such veteran, if admitted to the home, or to
28 a hospital as provided in subsection (a) of this section, may, upon
29 application to the commissioner, receive transportation at the expense
30 of the state from his or her place of residence to the home or such
31 hospital. No veteran so admitted shall be discharged from the home
32 except upon the approval of the commissioner or his or her designee.
33 [The commissioner shall have sole power to remove any veteran
34 whose care and treatment is paid for by the state from any hospital to
35 another and shall appoint] In the case of veterans admitted to a
36 hospital as provided in subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner
37 may designate such agents as are necessary to [see that veterans
38 admitted to hospitals] determine if such veterans are receiving
39 necessary food, clothing, care and treatment. Any veteran admitted to
40 a hospital as provided in this section shall execute a release permitting
41 the commissioner or his or her agents to determine if the veteran has
42 received the necessary food, clothing, care and treatment.

43 (d) Such veterans who are able to pay in whole or in part for such
44 program or services, as determined by the applicable fee schedule
45 adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 27-102l, shall receive a
46 monthly bill for such services rendered.

47 (e) In the event that a bill of a veteran remains unpaid and past due,

48 the chief fiscal officer, with the approval of the commissioner, shall
49 require the veteran to assign his or her right to receive payment of
50 income, from whatever source, to the commissioner until (1) such
51 account is made current, and (2) the veteran demonstrates to the
52 satisfaction of the commissioner a reasonable likelihood of more
53 prudent financial management for the future. Any veteran shall be
54 provided an opportunity for a hearing when an order of assignment is
55 issued.

56 (f) Payment of amounts determined by the commissioner as
57 provided by subsection (c) of this section shall be deposited in the
58 institutional general welfare fund of the Veterans' Home established in
59 accordance with sections 4-56 to 4-58, inclusive, and shall be available
60 for expenditure from said fund for the operation of the Veterans'
61 Home in accordance with procedures prescribed by the commissioner
62 and the Comptroller.

63 (g) In the event that a veteran dies, still owing money for services
64 rendered, the commissioner, with the aid of the Attorney General's
65 office, may submit a claim against such veteran's estate and any
66 amounts collected shall be deposited in the institutional general
67 welfare fund in accordance with section 4-56.

68 Sec. 2. Section 27-109 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
69 *October 1, 2014*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	27-108
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To require a hospital to certify that it has taken sufficient steps to ascertain whether funds are available to pay for the treatment of a veteran in such hospital before charging the state for such treatment, and to make conforming changes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]