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STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2030

By: Ross

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to veterans; amending 72 O.S. 1991, Section 63.3, which relates to the powers and duties of the War Veterans Commission; requiring the Governor to appoint the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs; providing for tenure; providing for certain salary; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 1991, Section 63.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 63.3 A. The War Veterans Commission shall perform all acts necessary or proper to afford emergency, temporary and permanent relief and assistance to all honorably discharged ex-service persons of all wars of the United States of America and to their dependents, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law. The Commission is authorized to promulgate rules ~~and regulations~~, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, for the operation and maintenance of the Department of Veterans Affairs; provided, however, in all cases priority and preference

shall always be given to disabled or diseased ex-service persons. The members of said Commission shall be reimbursed for necessary travel as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act. In addition to its other powers and duties as herein provided, the Commission shall have the following specific powers and duties which shall, however, not be deemed to be exclusive:

1. To organize itself by the election of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary, who shall perform the duties required of them by the rules ~~and regulations~~, but shall receive no extra compensation therefor, and to provide for the time and place of meetings of the Commission;

2. To ~~appoint the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs and~~ provide for the employment of all such ~~other~~ personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of Sections 63.1 through 63.4 of this title, and any other duties prescribed by law. ~~The salary and tenure of the Director of the Department shall be determined by the Commission;~~ and

3. To approve all claims or expenditures from such appropriations as may be made to the Commission prior to the payment thereof except as may be otherwise provided by law.

B. The Governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Director shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The salary of the Director shall be determined by the Commission.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.