

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 SENATE BILL 56

By: Burrage

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the War Veterans Commission of  
8 Oklahoma; amending 72 O.S. 2001, Section 63.2, which  
9 relates to membership of the War Veterans Commission;  
10 changing the number of Commission members; reducing  
11 the number of persons that may be submitted by  
12 organizations to the Governor of Oklahoma;  
13 establishing a maximum term for a Commissioner;  
14 providing procedure for renomination; and providing  
15 an effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 2001, Section 63.2, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 A. 1. The War Veterans Commission of Oklahoma shall consist of  
20 ~~nine (9)~~ six (6) members. Members shall be honorably discharged  
21 veterans of any war or conflict in which the United States  
22 participated as a belligerent provided ~~three~~ that at least one of  
23 the members shall be ~~veterans~~ a veteran of the Vietnam Conflict.  
24 The members shall be selected in the following manner: The state  
executive board or committees of the veterans' organizations in  
Oklahoma ~~who~~ that have had accredited representatives at the

1 Veterans Administration Regional Office in Oklahoma for at least ten  
2 (10) previous consecutive years ~~shall~~ may each submit to the  
3 Governor of Oklahoma, through the Secretary of the Oklahoma  
4 Department of Veterans Affairs, a list of ~~ten~~ five (5) persons  
5 qualified to serve as members of the War Veterans Commission of  
6 Oklahoma. Said list shall be submitted to the Governor not later  
7 than one (1) month prior to the expiration of the ~~terms~~ term of  
8 office of ~~the members~~ each member of the War Veterans Commission,  
9 and/or as soon as possible when an unforeseen vacancy on the War  
10 Veterans Commission occurs. The Governor shall name ~~four~~ members of  
11 the War Veterans Commission from the lists submitted by ~~the American~~  
12 ~~Legion, three members of the War Veterans Commission from the lists~~  
13 ~~submitted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and two members of the War~~  
14 ~~Veterans Commission from lists submitted by the Disabled American~~  
15 ~~Veterans~~ the veterans' organizations in Oklahoma as set forth in  
16 this paragraph. Provided, that only those veterans' organizations  
17 recognized to present claims before the Veterans Administration, or  
18 its successor, and maintaining a headquarters within the State of  
19 Oklahoma shall be eligible to submit a list of names to the Governor  
20 as provided ~~above~~ in this paragraph.

21 ~~The executive officer of each veterans' organization operating~~  
22 ~~within the State of Oklahoma shall on or before January 1 of each~~  
23 ~~year submit to the Secretary of State a copy of the annual audit of~~  
24 ~~the organization for the immediate preceding fiscal year of the~~

1 ~~organization. Such audit shall clearly show the total paid~~  
2 ~~membership of the organization and shall be certified to by a~~  
3 ~~certified public accountant. The members of the Commission shall be~~  
4 ~~appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the Senate.~~  
5 ~~Each organization qualifying for membership on the Oklahoma State~~  
6 ~~War Veterans Commission shall submit a list of ten names to the~~  
7 ~~Governor to choose from when a vacancy on the War Veterans~~  
8 ~~Commission occurs.~~

9 ~~Before any member appointed as provided herein shall enter upon~~  
10 ~~his duties as a member of the Commission he shall take and subscribe~~  
11 ~~to the oath of office as required by the Constitution of this state.~~

12 ~~Present members of the Commission shall continue in office until~~  
13 ~~the expiration of their terms and until their successors are~~  
14 ~~appointed and enter upon the duties of their offices. Appointments~~  
15 ~~shall be made for a three-year period term. War Veteran~~  
16 ~~Commissioners may serve only two (2) successive terms, a total of~~  
17 ~~six (6) years. A departing Commissioner may be renominated as set~~  
18 ~~forth in this paragraph following an absence of six (6) years from~~  
19 ~~the Commission. Any vacancy on the Commission resulting from any~~  
20 ~~cause shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the~~  
21 ~~remainder of the that term as provided in this section.~~

22 ~~2. Before any member appointed as provided in this section~~  
23 ~~shall enter upon the duties as a member of the Commission the member~~  
24

1 shall take and subscribe to the oath of office as required by the  
2 Oklahoma Constitution.

3 3. Present members of the Commission shall continue in office  
4 until the expiration of their terms and/or until their successors  
5 are appointed and sworn into office.

6 B. The executive officer of each veterans' organization  
7 operating within the State of Oklahoma shall on or before January 1  
8 of each year submit to the Secretary of State a copy of the annual  
9 audit of the organization for the immediate preceding fiscal year.  
10 Such audit shall clearly show the total paid membership of the  
11 organization and shall be certified to by a certified public  
12 accountant.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

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