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February 15, 2017

AS AMENDED

SENATE BILL NO. 57

By: Boggs of the Senate

and

Kannady of the House

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[ veterans - collection of payments - admission
standards - effective date ]
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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 2011, Section 63.5, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 212, O.S.L. 2014 (72 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 63.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 63.5. The Oklahoma Veterans Commission is hereby authorized to make collections from eligible patients and members for care and maintenance. Payments shall be established in the following manner:

1. All sources of personal income, except wages of a working spouse, except as provided in this section, shall be considered when computing care and maintenance charges, including pensions and awards for aid and attendance from the Veterans Administration;

2. Care and maintenance charges shall be computed in a manner to maximize the Veterans Administration pension and compensation

1 benefits to which the veteran is entitled and shall allow a veteran
2 to retain not less than One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per
3 month of total monthly income;

4 3. The care and maintenance charge shall not exceed the full
5 cost of care minus the Veterans Administration per diem payment;

6 4. Spouses, widows and widowers of eligible war veterans are
7 authorized to be admitted and maintained in the Oklahoma veterans
8 centers. The facilities admitting and maintaining spouses, widows
9 and widowers shall make collections from ~~said~~ the spouses, widows
10 and widowers first and to the fullest extent from sources of income
11 other than pension and compensation paid by the Veterans
12 Administration; and

13 5. The claim of the state for such care and maintenance shall
14 constitute a valid indebtedness against any such patient or member
15 and the patient's estate and shall not be barred by any statute of
16 limitations except as otherwise allowed by the Oklahoma Indigent
17 Health Care Act. At the death of the patient or member, this claim
18 shall be allowed and paid as other lawful claims against the estate.
19 Provided, no admission of a veteran of a period of war, as
20 referenced in 38 U.S.C., Section 1521 or detention of a patient in
21 an Oklahoma veterans center shall be limited or conditioned in any
22 manner by the lack of ability to pay of a patient or member, the
23 patient's estate, or any relative of the patient or member. Any
24

1 monies collected by the provisions of this section shall be
2 deposited in the Department of Veterans Affairs Revolving Fund.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
5 February 15, 2017 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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