

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

HOUSE BILL 2662

By: Steagall

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to veterans; amending 72 O.S. 2021, Section 221, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 83, O.S.L. 2022 (72 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 221), which relates to State Veterans Homes at Sulphur and Ardmore; authorizing Oklahoma Veterans Commission to renovate the home at Sulphur to provide specialized care; permitting Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs to obtain certain designations to provide advanced services and care; prohibiting admission for person dishonorably discharged from military service; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 2021, Section 221, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 83, O.S.L. 2022 (72 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 221), is amended to read as follows:

Section 221. A. There is hereby established at Sulphur, Oklahoma, on the site of the former Oklahoma State Veterans Hospital, ~~and~~ the State Veterans Home of Sulphur. The Oklahoma Veterans Commission is authorized to renovate and repurpose the State Veterans Home of Sulphur to specialize in services supporting the long-term care needs of veterans who require both nursing home

1 care and specialized cognitive care. The Oklahoma Department of
2 Veterans Affairs is authorized to obtain such licensure,
3 certification, accreditation, partnerships, contract services,
4 infrastructure, or staffing as is beneficial or necessary to provide
5 advanced services to veterans requiring specialized cognitive care.

6 B. There is hereby established at Ardmore, Oklahoma, ~~on the~~
7 ~~site of the Oklahoma State Veterans Home Facilities, and at Norman,~~
8 ~~Oklahoma, on the site of the Veterans Ward of the Griffin Memorial~~
9 ~~Hospital, further described as follows:~~

10 ~~Starting at the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE~~
11 ~~1/4) of Section twenty-nine (29), Township nine (9) North, Range two~~
12 ~~(2) West, of the Indian Meridian; thence North seventeen hundred~~
13 ~~(1700) feet to a point on the East boundary of Section twenty-nine~~
14 ~~(29), Township nine (9) North, Range two (2) West; thence West six~~
15 ~~hundred (600) feet; thence South eight hundred fifty (850) feet;~~
16 ~~thence West three hundred twenty-five (325) feet; thence South four~~
17 ~~hundred (400) feet; thence in a Southwest direction five hundred~~
18 ~~forty (540) feet to a point on the South boundary of the Northeast~~
19 ~~Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section twenty-nine (29), Township nine (9)~~
20 ~~North, Range two (2) West of the Indian Meridian; thence East a~~
21 ~~distance of one thousand two hundred twenty-three (1,223) feet to~~
22 ~~the point of beginning;~~
23 ~~facilities to be known as the State Veterans Homes (for the purpose~~
24 ~~of securing special treatment or hospitalization the adjoining~~

1 ~~facilities of Griffin Memorial Hospital shall be considered an~~
2 ~~integral part of the State Veterans Homes at Norman, and may be~~
3 ~~utilized to care for eligible veterans), which shall be available~~
4 ~~for care of war veterans discharged other than under dishonorable~~
5 ~~conditions. Further provided such centers~~ in accordance with
6 Section 229.1 of this title, the State Veterans Home of Ardmore.

7 C. The State Veterans Homes established in this section shall
8 be under the administration and control of the Oklahoma Veterans
9 Commission. No person discharged from military service with a
10 dishonorable discharge shall be admitted to the State Veterans Homes
11 established in this section.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

13
14 59-1-6151 EK 12/08/22
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24