

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 62  
State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 3/7/17  
PROPOSED HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S62-PCS45432-BD-26

Short Title: Veterans' Affairs Commission/Strategic Plan.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 9, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMISSION TO ADOPT A  
3 COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN TO ENHANCE BENEFITS FOR VETERANS  
4 AND THEIR DEPENDENTS AND TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY  
5 AND VETERANS AFFAIRS TO STUDY PROGRAM OUTCOMES FOR MILITARY  
6 VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by  
9 adding a new section to read:

10 "**§ 143B-1221.1. Strategic plan.**

11 (a) Strategic Plan. – The Veterans' Affairs Commission shall adopt a comprehensive  
12 strategic plan to enhance benefits for veterans and their dependents. The strategic plan shall  
13 include specific objectives related to the following topics:

- 14 (1) Improving accessibility of health, education, training, counseling, financial,  
15 and burial benefits and services to veterans and their dependents.  
16 (2) Increasing the satisfaction of veterans and their dependents with benefits and  
17 services by meeting their expectations for availability, quality, timeliness,  
18 and responsiveness.  
19 (3) Educating and empowering veterans and their dependents through proactive  
20 outreach and effective advocacy.  
21 (4) Any other topic related to enhancing benefits for veterans and their  
22 dependents.

23 (b) Update, Review, and Report. – The Commission shall update this plan every four  
24 years. The Commission shall annually review the State's performance based on this plan and  
25 shall annually report the results of its review to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on  
26 General Government."

27 **SECTION 2.** The Veterans' Affairs Commission shall adopt a strategic plan by  
28 November 1, 2018. The Veterans' Affairs Commission shall complete its first annual review  
29 and its first annual report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government  
30 by November 1, 2019. The Veterans' Affairs Commission shall complete its first update of the  
31 strategic plan by November 1, 2022.

32 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs shall study  
33 potential methods for documenting, collecting, and analyzing the outcomes for individual  
34 military veterans and their families in this State of the various programs designed to serve them  
35 and shall report its findings and recommendation to the chairs of the Senate and House of



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1 Representatives appropriations subcommittees on general government no later than December  
2 1, 2017.

3           **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.