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GATIGE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2004

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 4627

(By Delegates laquinta, Kuhn, Swartzmiller, Paxton, Poling, Tucker and Smirl)

Passed March 13, 2004

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage

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CAPAGE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

ENROLLED

H. B. 4627

(BY DELEGATES IAQUINTA, KUHN, SWARTZMILLER, PAXTON, POLING, TUCKER AND SMIRL)

[Passed March 13, 2004; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §9A-1-4 of the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to duties and functions of veterans' council; honoring academic achievement of West Virginians at military academies.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §9A-1-4 of the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

- §9A-1-4. Duties and functions of veterans' council; appointment of director; term of office; removal; honoring academic achievement at military academies.
 - 1 (a) It is the duty and function of the veterans' council to
 - 2 advise the director on the general administrative policies of the
 - 3 division, to select, at their first meeting in each fiscal year
 - 4 commencing on the first day of July, a chairman to serve one

5 year, to advise the director on rules as may be necessary, to 6 advise the governor and the Legislature with respect to legisla-7 tion affecting the interests of veterans, their widows, depend-8 ents and orphans and to make annual reports to the governor 9 respecting the service of the division. The director has the same 10 eligibility and qualifications prescribed for members of the 11 veterans' council. The governor shall appoint a director for a 12 term of six years, by and with the advice and consent of the 13 Senate. Before making the appointment, the governor shall request the council of the West Virginia division of veterans' 14 15 affairs to furnish a full and complete report concerning the 16 qualifications and suitability of the proposed appointee. The 17 director may only be removed by the governor for cause, but 18 shall have upon his or her own request an open hearing before 19 the governor on the complaints or charges lodged against him 20 or her. The action of the governor shall be final. The director ex 21 officio shall be the executive secretary of the veterans' council, 22 keep the minutes of each meeting and be in charge of all 23 records of the division.

24 (b) The veterans' council may annually honor each West 25 Virginian graduating from the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. 26 Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the U.S. 27 Coast Guard Academy with the highest grade point average by 28 bestowing upon him or her the "West Augusta Award". The 29 award shall be in a design and form established by the council 30 and include the famous Revolutionary War phrase from which 31 the award's name is derived: "Once again our brethren from 32 West Augusta have answered the call to duty." The council 33 shall coordinate the manner of recognition of the recipient at 34 graduation ceremonies with each academy.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
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Chairman Senate Committee
Chairman House Committee
Originating in the House.
In effect ninety days from passage.
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