

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1409**

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, Damschen, Laning, Trottier

Senators Dever, Myrdal

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to the accreditation of county veterans' service officers.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **37-14-18. County veterans' service officer - Appointment - Duties.**

7 The board of county commissioners of each county of the state of North Dakota shall  
8 appoint, employ, and pay, on a full-time or part-time basis, an officer to be known as a county  
9 veterans' service officer. The veterans' affairs commissioner may work directly with county  
10 veterans' service officers. An individual may serve as a county veterans' service officer in more  
11 than one county. The appointment must be made with the prior advice of the commissioner of  
12 veterans' affairs, and in accordance with veterans' preference as provided in section  
13 37-19.1-02. ~~By August 1, 2011, all~~All county veterans' service officers and employees of the  
14 county veterans' service offices ~~must be accredited by the national association of county-~~  
15 ~~veterans' service officers~~ maintain a level of educational proficiency established by the  
16 department of veterans' affairs. It is the duty of the county veterans' service officer to become  
17 acquainted with the laws, both state and federal, enacted for the benefit of returning servicemen  
18 and servicewomen to assist ~~such~~the returning members of the armed forces in the presentation,  
19 proof, and establishment of ~~such~~the claims, privileges, and rights ~~as they~~members have. ~~It also~~  
20 ~~is the duty of the~~The county veterans' service officer ~~to actively~~shall cooperate with and ~~to~~  
21 coordinate the activities of the state and federal agencies within the county ~~which~~ the officer  
22 serves to facilitate their operation and ensure promptness in the solution of the problems  
23 concerned with the re-establishment of returning servicemen and servicewomen in civilian  
24 pursuits. A county veterans' service officer may not serve as a conservator for an individual ~~who~~

Sixty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly

- 1 is receiving benefits or services from the department of veterans' affairs or the United States
- 2 department of veterans' affairs, except if the individual is the spouse or an immediate family
- 3 member of the officer.