



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB5600

by Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 2805/4

from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 69

Amends the Department of Veterans Affairs Act. In a provision requiring a service officer to be assigned to each field office established by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, provides that he or she must be an honorably discharged veteran from service in the Armed Forces of the United States who has served at least 2 years of military service (rather than he must be an honorably discharged veteran from service in the Armed Forces of the United States; and he must have served during a time of hostilities with a foreign country). Removes the definition for "time of hostilities with a foreign country". Removes certain conditions concerning military service and discharge. Effective immediately.

LRB099 15935 KTG 40252 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 4 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/4) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 69)

7 Sec. 4. A service officer shall be assigned to each field  
8 office. He or she must be an honorably discharged veteran from  
9 service in the Armed Forces of the United States who has served  
10 at least 2 years of military service. ~~He must have served~~  
11 ~~during a time of hostilities with a foreign country, and must~~  
12 ~~meet one or more of the following conditions:~~

13 ~~(i) The veteran served a total of at least 6 months.~~

14 ~~(ii) The veteran served for the duration of hostilities~~  
15 ~~regardless of the length of engagement.~~

16 ~~(iii) The veteran was discharged on the basis of~~  
17 ~~hardship.~~

18 ~~(iv) The veteran was released from active duty because~~  
19 ~~of a service connected disability and was discharged under~~  
20 ~~honorable conditions.~~

21 ~~As used in this Section, "time of hostilities with a~~  
22 ~~foreign country" means any period of time in the past, present,~~  
23 ~~or future during which a declaration of war by the United~~

1 ~~States Congress has been or is in effect or during which an~~  
2 ~~emergency condition has been or is in effect that is recognized~~  
3 ~~by the issuance of a Presidential proclamation or a~~  
4 ~~Presidential executive order and in which the armed forces~~  
5 ~~expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are~~  
6 ~~awarded according to Presidential executive order.~~

7 (Source: P.A. 88-275.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
9 becoming law.