

HB 456 - AS INTRODUCED

2015 SESSION

15-0281
09/08

HOUSE BILL **456**

AN ACT relative to appointment of a veterans' ombudsman by the governor.

SPONSORS: Rep. Theberge, Coos 3; Rep. Rideout, Coos 7; Rep. Massimilla, Graf 1; Rep. Baldasaro, Rock 5; Rep. F. Rice, Rock 21; Rep. Y. Thomas, Coos 3; Rep. Froburg, Coos 3; Rep. Rappaport, Coos 1; Rep. Gorman, Hills 31; Sen. Cataldo, Dist 6; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the governor to appoint a veterans' ombudsman.

This bill was requested by the committee to study the laws relating to the New Hampshire veterans' home which was established by 2014, 88 (HB 1136).

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~].
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen

AN ACT relative to appointment of a veterans' ombudsman by the governor.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Chapter; Veterans' Ombudsman. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 115-D the
2 following new chapter:

3 CHAPTER 115-E

4 VETERANS' OMBUDSMAN

5 115-E:1 Veterans' Ombudsman.

6 I. The governor shall appoint a veterans' ombudsman who shall have the following duties
7 and responsibilities:

8 (a) Representing the governor in all matters relative to the New Hampshire veterans'
9 home and the state veterans' advisory committee.

10 (b) Representing the interests of the public by investigating and addressing complaints
11 of maladministration of veterans' programs and services or violations of veterans' rights and making
12 recommendations or mediating such complaints.

13 (c) Identifying and reporting to the governor on systemic issues leading to poor service to
14 veterans or breaches of veterans' rights, including issues involving contracted service providers.

15 II. The veterans' ombudsman shall serve without compensation except for mileage
16 reimbursement in carrying out his or her duties and responsibilities.

17 III. The veterans' ombudsman shall report to the governor and council as necessary to carry
18 out his or her duties and responsibilities.

19 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.