

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 626

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Brewer, 43; Crawford, 45; Gragert, 40;
Linehan, 39.

Read first time January 23, 2019

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to veterans; to amend section 55-601, Revised
- 2 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018; to provide for the position of
- 3 veterans' workforce development coordinator in the Department of
- 4 Labor; to provide duties; to change provisions relating to the
- 5 Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs; and to repeal the
- 6 original section.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds and declares that:

2 (a) Nebraska is a welcoming state for veterans and their families;
3 and

4 (b) Nebraska is committed to workforce development initiatives that
5 help attract and retain veterans and their families.

6 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to:

7 (a) Increase efforts to create public awareness among veterans and
8 their families about the benefits of living and working in Nebraska,
9 including special initiatives enacted to make Nebraska a veteran-friendly
10 state; and

11 (b) Develop new initiatives to better connect veterans to Nebraska's
12 job market and the workforce development needs of employers.

13 (3) The position of veterans' workforce development coordinator is
14 created. The coordinator shall be a veteran and a full-time employee of
15 the Department of Labor and shall:

16 (a) Develop a web site with a job-search tool specific to veterans;

17 (b) Research best practices and web sites specific to veterans from
18 other states;

19 (c) Seek advice and input from the Commission on Military and
20 Veteran Affairs related to veterans' workforce development issues;

21 (d) Be a nonvoting, ex officio member of the Commission on Military
22 and Veteran Affairs; and

23 (e) Submit an annual progress report to the Commission on Military
24 and Veteran Affairs.

25 (4) The Department of Labor shall provide the necessary staff to
26 assist the veterans' workforce development coordinator in carrying out
27 the purposes of this section.

28 Sec. 2. Section 55-601, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
29 2018, is amended to read:

30 55-601 (1) The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs is
31 created. The commission shall consist of the following voting members:

- 1 (a) The Director of Economic Development;
- 2 (b) The Adjutant General or his or her designee;
- 3 (c) The Director of Veterans' Affairs; and
- 4 (d) Three residents of the State of Nebraska, one from each
- 5 congressional district. At least one of the three residents shall have
- 6 current or prior military experience and at least one shall have a
- 7 background in business.

8 (2) The commission shall have the following nonvoting, ex officio
9 members:

- 10 (a) The veterans' workforce development coordinator;
- 11 (b) (a) The chair of the State Committee of Employer Support of the
12 Guard and Reserve;
- 13 (c) (b) The commander of the 55th Wing of the Air Combat Command or
14 his or her designee;
- 15 (d) (c) The commander of the United States Strategic Command or his
16 or her designee; and
- 17 (e) (d) The commander of the 557th Weather Wing of the United States
18 Air Force or his or her designee.

19 (3) The members of the commission described in subdivision (1)(e)
20 (1)(d) of this section shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor
21 shall designate the initial terms of the members described in subdivision
22 (1)(e) (1)(d) of this section so that one member serves for a term of two
23 years, one member serves for a term of three years, and one member serves
24 for a term of four years. Succeeding appointments shall be for terms of
25 four years and shall be made in the same manner as the original
26 appointments. The terms of the members shall begin on October 1 of the
27 year in which they are appointed unless appointed to fill a vacancy.
28 Appointments to fill a vacancy, occurring other than by the expiration of
29 a term of office, shall be made for the unexpired term of the member
30 whose office is vacated.

31 Sec. 3. Original section 55-601, Revised Statutes Cumulative

1 Supplement, 2018, is repealed.