

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2010 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 10

Bill No. 49 - 2010

Introduced by: Greg Fox

AN ACT to establish a Veterans' Commission; specifying its composition and duties; requiring County agencies to cooperate with the Commission; and generally relating to veterans in Howard County.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2010. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2010.

By order _____
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2010 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ___ day of _____, 2010 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2010

Ken Ulman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that Section 6.342
2 is added to Subtitle 3 “Boards and Commissions” of Title 6 “County Executive and the
3 Executive Branch” and sections 6.700 “Veterans Commission,” 6.701 “General powers and
4 duties of Veterans’ Commission,” and 6.702. “Cooperation” are added as new Subtitle 7
5 “Veterans” of Title 6 “County Executive and the Executive Branch” of the Howard County Code
6 to read as follows:

7
8 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.**

9 **Subtitle 3. Boards and Commissions.**

10
11 **6.342. VETERANS’ COMMISSION.**

12 THERE IS A VETERANS’ COMMISSION. ITS MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE
13 SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 7, "VETERANS," OF THIS TITLE.

14
15 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.**

16 **SUBTITLE 7. VETERANS.**

17
18 **6.700. VETERANS’ COMMISSION**

19 (A) *GENERAL PROVISIONS.* GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE VETERANS’
20 COMMISSION ARE SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 3, "BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS," OF THIS TITLE.

21 (B) *ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION.*

22 (1) THERE IS A HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS’ COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION
23 CONSISTS OF 13 MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
24 PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

25 (2) EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL FORWARD TO THE
26 COUNTY EXECUTIVE THE NAMES OF TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO THE COUNCIL MEMBER
27 DESIRES THE EXECUTIVE TO APPOINT AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, EACH OF WHOM
28 MUST BE A VETERAN AND FROM AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

29 (I) VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS;

30 (II) AMERICAN LEGION;

- 1 (iii) AMVETS;
- 2 (iv) DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS;
- 3 (v) MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART;
- 4 (vi) JEWISH WAR VETERANS;
- 5 (vii) VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA;
- 6 (viii) KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION;
- 7 (ix) UNITED FEMALE VETERANS OF AMERICA OR ANOTHER WOMEN'S
- 8 VETERANS ORGANIZATION;
- 9 (x) CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS;
- 10 (xi) WOMEN'S ARMY AIR CORPS ASSOCIATION;
- 11 (xii) RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION;
- 12 (xiii) A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR;
- 13 (xiv) POLISH LEGION OF AMERICAN VETERANS; OR
- 14 (xv) MARINE CORPS LEAGUE.

15 (3) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL APPOINT 3 MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION,
16 WHO NEED NOT BE VETERANS, AS FOLLOWS:

- 17 (i) ONE AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY;
- 18 (ii) A COUNTY CITIZEN WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A LOCAL BUSINESS OR
- 19 IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL BUSINESS, RECOMMENDED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY
- 20 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;
- 21 (iii) A COUNTY CITIZEN WHO IS AN EDUCATOR OR EDUCATIONAL
- 22 ADMINISTRATOR, RECOMMENDED BY HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

23 (C) *QUALIFICATIONS.* MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WHO ARE VETERANS SHALL HAVE
24 SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, OTHER THAN FOR
25 TRAINING, AND SHALL HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED OR RELEASED UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN
26 DISHONORABLE.

27 (D) *EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.* THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY
28 EMPLOYEE TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION AND ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.

29 (E) *MEETINGS.* THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY.

30

1 **6.701. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF VETERANS' COMMISSION.**

2 THE HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS' COMMISSION SHALL:

3 (1) ESTABLISH A FORUM EXCLUSIVELY RELATING TO THE ISSUES OF HOWARD COUNTY
4 RESIDENTS WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

5 (2) MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, BUSINESSES,
6 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND VETERANS IN THE COUNTY, WITH THE INTENT THAT VETERANS'
7 ISSUES WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER;

8 (3) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE, AND INFORMATION TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,
9 BUSINESSES, AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO ENSURE ADEQUATE CONSIDERATION OF
10 VETERANS AND THEIR HISTORY OF SERVICE IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND PUBLIC
11 PROGRAMS;

12 (4) RESEARCH, ASSEMBLE, ANALYZE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION AND
13 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS RELATING TO ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS THAT WILL ASSIST IN MEETING
14 THE NEEDS OF VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES;

15 (5) INSTITUTE AND CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER PROGRAMS, MEETINGS, AND
16 CONFERENCES TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS;

17 (6) ADVISE THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF PROGRAMS AND
18 SERVICES IN THE STATE AND COUNTY RELATED TO THE NEEDS OF VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES;
19 AND

20 (7) ASSIST IN PLANNING APPROPRIATE PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE
21 CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY VETERANS AND ASSIST IN PLANNING COMMEMORATION ACTIVITIES
22 RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY VETERANS.

23
24 **6.702. COOPERATION.**

25 SUBJECT TO PUBLIC RECORDS LAWS, EACH COUNTY AGENCY SHALL COOPERATE FULLY
26 WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS' COMMISSION.

27
28 *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that,*
29 *to establish the stagger of terms required by § 6.300 of the Howard County Code, of the initial*
30 *appointees to the Commission, 2 appointees shall have a term of 1 year, 2 appointees shall have*

1 *a term of 2 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 3 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 4*
2 *years, and 3 appointees shall have a term of 5 years, as provided in the Resolutions that confirm*
3 *the appointments.*

4

5 ***Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted*** *by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that*
6 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*