

Bill No. 23-08  
Concerning: Commission on Veterans  
Affairs - Establishment  
Revised: 7-17-08 Draft No. 2  
Introduced: June 10, 2008  
Enacted: July 22, 2008  
Executive: August 4, 2008  
Effective: November 3, 2008  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. 28, Laws of Mont. Co. 2008

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

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**AN ACT to:**

- (1) establish a Commission on Veterans Affairs; and
- (2) generally provide for the composition and duties of the Commission.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 24 – Health and Sanitation  
Article VIII – Commission on Veterans Affairs  
Section 24-61

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           Sec 1. Section 24-61 is added as follows:

2                           Article VIII. Commission on Veterans Affairs.

3   24-61. [Reserved.] Commission on Veterans Affairs.

4           (a) Definition. In this Section “Commission” means the Commission on  
5                           Veterans Affairs.

6           (b) Established. The County Executive must appoint, subject to confirmation  
7                           by the Council, a Commission on Veterans Affairs.

8           (c) Composition; Term.

9                   (1) The Commission has 11 voting members.

10                  (2) The Executive should appoint 6 members [[that]] who are veterans  
11                           and may be a member of a veterans group, such as:

12                           [[i]] (A) Vietnam Veterans of America;

13                           [[ii]] (B) American Veterans (AMVETS);

14                           [[iii]] (C) Disabled American Veterans;

15                           [[iv]] (D) Veterans of Foreign Wars;

16                           [[v]] (E) Women Veterans of America;

17                           (F) American Legion; or

18                           [[vi]] (G) Military Order of the Purple Heart.

19                  (3) The Executive must appoint 2 members to represent the general  
20                           public.

21                  (4) The Executive must designate the following ex officio members:

22                           (A) the Director of the Department of Health and Human  
23                                   Services, or the Director’s designee;

24                           (B) the Director of the Department of Economic Development,  
25                                   or the Director’s designee; and

26                           (C) the County Executive or the Executive’s designee.

- 27           (5) The term of each member is 3 years.
- 28           (6) The Executive must designate a chair and vice-chair from among the
- 29                 [[Committee's]] Commission's members
- 30           (7) After an appointment to fill a vacancy before a term expires, the
- 31                 successor serves the rest of the unexpired term.

32           (d) Duties. The Commission should:

- 33                 (1) research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information and
- 34                 educational materials relating to activities and programs that will
- 35                 assist in meeting the needs of veterans and their families;
- 36                 (2) institute and conduct educational and other programs, meetings,
- 37                 and conferences to promote the rights and opportunities for
- 38                 veterans;
- 39                 (3) advise the Executive and the Council on the status of programs and
- 40                 services in the State and County related to the needs of veterans
- 41                 and their families; and
- 42                 (4) assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the
- 43                 contributions made by veterans and assist in planning
- 44                 commemoration activities recognizing the contributions made by
- 45                 veterans.

46           (e) Staff support. The Department of Health and Human Services must

47                 provide staff support to the Commission.

48           (f) Meetings. The Commission meets at the call of the Chair. The

49                 Commission must meet as often as necessary to perform its duties, but not

50                 less than 9 times each year.

51           (g) Compensation. A member must serve without compensation. However,

52                 a member may request reimbursement for mileage and dependent care

53 costs at rates established by the County.

54 (h) Annual Report. By October 1 each year, the Commission must submit to  
55 the Executive and Council, and any other appropriate agency, an annual  
56 report on its functions, activities, and accomplishments.

57 (i) Advocacy. The Commission must not engage in any advocacy activity at  
58 the state or federal levels unless that activity is approved by the Office of  
59 Intergovernmental Relations.

60 **Sec. 2. Terms for Initial Members.**

61 Of the members initially appointed to the Commission for Veterans Affairs, the  
62 Executive should appoint 3 members to a 1-year term; 4 members to a 2-year term; and  
63 4 members to a 3-year term.

64 *Approved:*

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66 Michael J. Knapp 23 Jul 08  
67 Michael J. Knapp, President, County Council Date

68 *Approved:*

69 Isiah Leggett Aug 4, 2008  
Isiah Leggett, County Executive Date

70 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

71 Linda M. Lauer Aug 4, 2008  
Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council Date