County Council
For Montgomery County, Maryland

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

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

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The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:
Sec 1. Section 24-61 is added as follows:

Article VIII. Commission on Veterans Affairs.

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

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

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

(c) Composition; Term.

(1) The Commission has 11 voting members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(F) American Legion; or

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

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

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

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

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

(C) the County Executive or the Executive’s designee.
(5) The term of each member is 3 years.

(6) The Executive must designate a chair and vice-chair from among the
Commission's members

(7) After an appointment to fill a vacancy before a term expires, the
successor serves the rest of the unexpired term.

(d) Duties. The Commission should:

(1) research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information and
educational materials relating to activities and programs that will
assist in meeting the needs of veterans and their families;

(2) institute and conduct educational and other programs, meetings,
and conferences to promote the rights and opportunities for
veterans;

(3) advise the Executive and the Council on the status of programs and
services in the State and County related to the needs of veterans
and their families; and

(4) assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the
contributions made by veterans and assist in planning
commemoration activities recognizing the contributions made by
veterans.

(e) Staff support. The Department of Health and Human Services must
provide staff support to the Commission.

(f) Meetings. The Commission meets at the call of the Chair. The
Commission must meet as often as necessary to perform its duties, but not
less than 9 times each year.

(g) Compensation. A member must serve without compensation. However,
a member may request reimbursement for mileage and dependent care
costs at rates established by the County.

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

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

Sec. 2. Terms for Initial Members.

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

Approved:

Michael J. Knapp, President, County Council

Michael J. Knapp

Approved:

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Isiah Leggett

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Linda M. Lauer