CHAPTER 295
[Substitute House Bill No. 576]
VETERANS’ RELIEF

AN ACT Relating to veterans; amending section 1, page 208, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 1, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.010; amending section 2, page 208, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 2, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.030; amending section 4, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 4, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.050; amending section 5, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 5, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.060; amending section 6, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1949 and RCW 73.08.070; and amending section 7, page 210, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 6, chapter 155, Laws of 1980 and RCW 73.08.080.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 1, page 208, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 1, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.010 are each amended to read as follows:

For the relief of indigent and suffering ((Union soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the Civil War, in the war of Mexico or in any of the Indian wars in the United States; the Spanish-American war and Philippine insurrection, soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the United States army, navy, or marine corps between April 6, 1917, and the date upon which peace is finally concluded with the German government and its allies; or soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States in any other foreign war, insurrection, or expedition, which service shall be governed by the issuance of a campaign badge by the government of the United States of America, or for any members of the armed forces of the United States in the existing war between the United States and Japan and her allies, or the existing war between the United States and Germany and her allies;)) veterans as defined in RCW 41.04.005 and their families or the families of those deceased, who need assistance in any city, town or precinct in this state, the ((board of commissioners)) legislative authority of the county in which ((said)) the city, town or precinct is situated shall provide such sum or sums of money as may be necessary, to be drawn upon by the commander and quartermaster, or commander and adjutant or commander and service officer of any post, camp or chapter of any national organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered by an act of congress in ((said)) the city or
town upon recommendation of the relief committee of said post, camp or chapter: PROVIDED, Said (soldier, sailor or marine) veteran or the families of those deceased are and have been residents of the state for at least twelve months, and the orders of said commander and quartermaster, or commander and adjutant or commander and service officer shall be the proper voucher for the expenditure of said sum or sums of money.

Sec. 2. Section 2, page 208, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 2, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.030 are each amended to read as follows:

If there be no post, camp or chapter of any national organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered by an act of congress, in any precinct in which it should be granted, the (county commissioners) legislative authority of the county in which said precinct is, may accept and pay the orders drawn, as hereinbefore provided by the commander and quartermaster, or commander and adjutant or commander and service officer, of any post, camp or chapter of any national organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered by an act of congress, located in the nearest city or town, upon the recommendation of a relief committee who shall be residents of the said precinct in which the relief may be furnished.

Sec. 3. Section 4, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 4, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.050 are each amended to read as follows:

The county (commissioners) legislative authority may require of the commander and quartermaster, or commander and adjutant or commander and service officer, of any post, camp or chapter of any national organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered by an act of congress undertaking to distribute relief under this chapter a bond with sufficient and satisfactory sureties for the faithful and honest discharge of their duties under this chapter.

Sec. 4. Section 5, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 5, chapter 180, Laws of 1947 and RCW 73.08.060 are each amended to read as follows:

County (commissioners) legislative authorities are hereby prohibited from sending indigent (Union, Spanish-American war soldiers, sailors and marines, soldiers, sailors and marines who have served the United States in the United States army, navy, or marine corps between April 6, 1917, and the date upon which peace is finally concluded with the German government and its allies, or soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States in any other foreign war, insurrection or expedition, which service shall be governed by the issuance of a campaign badge by the government of the United States of America, or any members of the armed forces of the United States in the existing war between the
United States and Germany and her allies or the existing war between the
United States and Japan and her allies (or disabled veterans as defined in
RCW 41.04.005 or their families or the families of the deceased (of the
classes of persons mentioned in RCW 73.08.010,)) to any almshouse (or
orphan asylum) without the concurrence and consent of the commander and
relief committee of the post, camp or chapter of any national organization
of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered by an act of congress
as provided in RCW 73.08.010 and 73.08.030. Indigent veterans shall,
whenever practicable, be provided for and relieved at their homes in such
city, town or precinct in which they shall have a residence, in the manner
provided in RCW 73.08.010 and 73.08.030. Indigent or disabled veterans
(of the classes specified in RCW 73.08.010) as defined in RCW 41.04-
.005, who are not insane and have no families or friends with whom they
may be domiciled, may be sent to any soldiers' home.

Sec. 5. Section 6, page 209, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 1,
chapter 15, Laws of 1949 and RCW 73.08.070 are each amended to read as
follows:

It shall be the duty of the (board of county commissioners) legislative
authority in each of the counties in this state to designate some proper au-
thority other than the one designated by law for the care of paupers and the
custody of criminals who shall cause to be interred at the expense of the
county the body of any honorably discharged (soldier, sailor or marine who
served in the army or the navy of the United States of America during the
late Civil War or in the war with Mexico or in any of the Indian wars that
occurred in the state of Washington, or the Spanish-American war and the
Philippine insurrection, soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the
United States army, navy or marine corps between April 6, 1917, and the
date upon which peace is finally concluded with the German government
and its allies, or soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the army, navy
or marine corps of the United States in any other foreign war, insurrection
or expedition which service shall be governed by the issuance of a campaign
badge by the government of the United States of America, or any member
of the armed forces of the United States in the existing war between the
United States and Germany and her allies or the existing war between the
United States and Japan and her allies;)) veterans as defined in RCW 41-
.04.005 and the wives, husbands, minor children, widows or widowers of
such (soldiers, sailors or marines) veterans, who shall hereafter die with-
out leaving means sufficient to defray funeral expenses; and when requested
so to do by the commanding officer of any post, camp or chapter of any na-
tional organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be, chartered
by an act of congress or the relief committee of any such posts, camps or
chapters: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That such interment shall not cost
more than ((one)) three hundred ((eighty)) dollars. If the deceased has re-
latives or friends who desire to conduct the burial of such deceased person,
then upon request of said commander or relief committee a sum not to exceed ((one)) three hundred ((eighty)) dollars shall be paid to said relatives or friends by the county treasurer, upon due proof of the death and burial of any person provided for by this section and proof of expenses incurred.

Sec. 6. Section 7, page 210, Laws of 1888 as last amended by section 6, chapter 155, Laws of 1980 and RCW 73.08.080 are each amended to read as follows:

The ((boards-of-county-commissioners)) legislative authorities of the several counties in this state shall levy, in addition to the taxes now levied by law, a tax in a sum equal to the amount which would be raised by not less than one and one-eighth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and not greater than twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value against the taxable property of their respective counties, to be levied and collected as now prescribed by law for the assessment and collection of taxes, for the purpose of creating the veteran's relief fund for the relief of honorably discharged veterans ((who served in the armed forces of the United States in the Civil War, in the war of Mexico or in any of the Indian wars, or the Spanish-American war or the Philippine insurrection, in the First World War, or Second World War or Korean conflict, or Viet Nam conflict;)) as defined in RCW 41.04.005 and the indigent wives, husbands, widows, widowers and minor children of such indigent or deceased veterans, to be disbursed for such relief by such ((board-of-county-commissioners)) county legislative authority: PROVIDED, That if the funds on deposit, less outstanding warrants, residing in the veteran's relief fund on the first Tuesday in September exceed the expected yield of one and one-eighth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value against the taxable property of the county, the county ((commissioners)) legislative authority may levy a lesser amount: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the costs incurred in the administration of said veteran's relief fund shall be computed by the county treasurer not less than annually and such amount may then be transferred from the veteran's relief fund as herein provided for to the county current expense fund.

The amount of a levy allocated to the purposes specified in this section may be reduced in the same proportion as the regular property tax levy of the county is reduced by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Passed the House March 30, 1983.
Passed the Senate April 21, 1983.
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