

SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4776

A bill to create a veterans speakers program within the department of military and veterans affairs; and to prescribe duties for certain state officials.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. A veterans speakers program is created within the
2 veterans' affairs directorate of the department of military and
3 veterans affairs. Under the program, the directorate may do all
4 of the following:

5 (a) Create a list of veterans who are willing to visit local
6 schools and make presentations of their military experiences.
7 The list shall include the length of service, geographical area
8 of service, and the rank of each veteran.

9 (b) Encourage veterans' organizations to participate in the
10 program.

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1 (c) Create a pamphlet that encourages schools to utilize the
2 experiences of veterans in the course of their educational
3 instruction. The pamphlet shall include the names and means of
4 contacting appropriate veterans from the list of veterans created
5 under subdivision (a).

6 (d) Distribute the pamphlet to all the school districts in
7 this state.

8 (e) Provide a system of receiving evaluations of the speak-
9 ers and the program from teachers and students who utilized the
10 program.

11 (f) Update the list of available veteran speakers at least
12 annually. The directorate may make the list available on the
13 internet through the web site of the department of military and
14 veterans affairs.

15 Sec. 2. The speakers program created in section 1 is not a
16 replacement for any instruction required by any other law. This
17 act does not require a teacher to participate in the program cre-
18 ated in section 1. A teacher who chooses to participate in the
19 program may tailor the subject matter and select the veteran that
20 he or she determines is most appropriate for the students.

21 Sec. 3. The director of the veterans' affairs directorate
22 shall annually report to the committees of the house of represen-
23 tatives and the senate having jurisdiction over veterans affairs
24 on the merits and the use of the program.