

SENATE BILL NO. 555

June 17, 2021, Introduced by Senator WOJNO and referred to the Committee on Families, Seniors, and Veterans.

A bill to create certain funds; to create a Michigan military and veteran services support fund board and prescribe its powers and duties; and to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Board" means the Michigan military and veteran services
3 support fund board created in section 5.

4 (b) "Services support fund" means the Michigan military and
5 veteran services support fund created in section 3.

1 Sec. 3. (1) The Michigan military and veteran services support
2 fund is created as a charitable and educational endowment fund in
3 the department of treasury. Contributions made to the services
4 support fund are considered tax-deductible donations. Money in the
5 services support fund at the end of the fiscal year remains in the
6 services support fund and does not lapse to the general fund.

7 (2) The services support fund must have separate accounts for
8 each of the following:

9 (a) Supporting and enhancing this state's military service
10 members, their families, and the economy.

11 (b) Supporting and enhancing this state's veterans, their
12 families, and the communities where they live.

13 (3) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the
14 services support fund. The state treasurer has the same authority
15 to invest the assets of the services support fund as an investment
16 fiduciary under the public employee retirement system investment
17 act, 1965 PA 314, MCL 38.1132 to 38.1141. The state treasurer shall
18 comply with the divestment from terror act, 2008 PA 234, MCL
19 129.291 to 129.301, when investing the assets of the services
20 support fund.

21 (4) Money granted or received as a gift or donation to the
22 services support fund is available for disbursement upon
23 appropriation.

24 (5) The state treasurer shall annually prepare an accounting
25 of revenues and expenditures from the services support fund. The
26 accounting must be provided to the senate and house of
27 representatives appropriations committees. The accounting must do
28 all of the following:

29 (a) Specifically identify the interest and earnings of the

1 services support fund.

2 (b) Describe how the amount of interest and earnings has been
3 affected by the expanded investment options provided for in
4 subsection (3).

5 (c) Identify how the increased interest and earnings, if any,
6 have been expended.

7 Sec. 5. (1) The Michigan military and veteran services support
8 fund board is established to provide oversight and management of
9 the services support fund created in section 3.

10 (2) The board consists of 7 members as follows:

11 (a) The director of the department of military and veterans
12 affairs, or his or her designee.

13 (b) The director of the Michigan veterans affairs agency, or
14 his or her designee.

15 (c) Five members, who have a background or experience in
16 fundraising or charitable giving, appointed by the governor as
17 follows:

18 (i) One member who represents the interests of service members
19 and their families.

20 (ii) One member who represents the interests of veterans, their
21 families, and the communities where they live.

22 (iii) One member who represents the interests of a
23 congressionally chartered veteran service organization.

24 (iv) One member who represents the interests of a military
25 trade association or support entity.

26 (v) One member who represents the interests of the general
27 public.

28 (3) The appointed members of the board as described in
29 subsection (2)(c) shall serve for terms of 4 years. Of the 5

1 members first appointed to the board, 2 must be appointed for an
2 initial term of 1 year, 2 must be appointed for an initial term of
3 2 years, and 1 must be appointed for an initial term of 3 years.
4 The appointed members of the board shall serve until a successor is
5 appointed. A vacancy must be filled for the balance of the
6 unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

7 (4) The members of the board are subject to 1968 PA 317, MCL
8 15.321 to 15.330, and 1968 PA 318, MCL 15.301 to 15.310.

9 (5) The board shall organize and make its own policies and
10 procedures. The board shall conduct all business at public meetings
11 held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL
12 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of
13 each meeting must be given in the manner required by the open
14 meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

15 (6) The department of military and veterans affairs shall
16 provide the board with administrative and staff support and other
17 services.

18 Sec. 7. The board may do all of the following:

19 (a) Oversee the services support fund, request appropriations,
20 and make allocations of revenue from the services support fund to
21 the department of military and veterans affairs to provide
22 supplemental funding for the department's services and programs.

23 (b) Accept, hold, and administer gifts and bequests of money,
24 securities, or other property, absolutely or in trust, to carry out
25 the services support fund's purposes.

26 (c) Enter into contracts and execute all instruments necessary
27 and appropriate to carry out the services support fund's purposes.

28 (d) Take reasonably necessary actions to seek, promote, and
29 stimulate contributions for the services support fund.

1 (e) Perform any lawful acts necessary or appropriate to carry
2 out the services support fund's purposes.

3 (f) Develop policies and procedures applicable to the
4 management and functioning of the services support fund.