

As Introduced

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Representative Gardner

**Cosponsors: Representatives Grossman, Huffman, Bulp, Hall, Uecker,
Evans, Murray, Zehringer, Hite, Yuko, Brown, Jones, Hagan, Hottinger,
Stebelton, Amstutz, Boyd**

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A B I L L

To establish the Commission for the Future of Local 1
Veterans Posts in Ohio to develop recommendations 2
on local veterans posts' economic status, tax and 3
regulatory issues, local economic and civic 4
impact, state funding issues, and sustainability. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) The Commission for the Future of Local 6
Veterans Posts in Ohio shall develop recommendations for the 7
successful and sustainable operation of local veterans posts in 8
Ohio. In developing its recommendations, the commission shall 9
analyze, but is not limited to analyzing only, the following: 10

(1) The economic status of local veterans posts throughout 11
the state; 12

(2) Relevant tax and regulatory issues impacting local 13
veterans posts in the state, and comparable tax and regulatory 14
issues impacting local veterans posts in other states; 15

(3) Relevant tax and regulatory costs impacting local 16
veterans posts in the state compared to support provided by the 17

state and by its political subdivisions, and comparable relevant 18
tax and regulatory costs impacting local veterans posts in other 19
states compared to support provided by the other states and by 20
their political subdivisions; 21

(4) The local economic and civic impact of local veterans 22
posts in communities throughout the state; 23

(5) The existing relationship between state headquarters and 24
local veterans posts and the impact that state funding support of 25
statewide veterans organizations has on local veterans posts and 26
services to veterans; 27

(6) The sustainability of local veterans posts in the state. 28

(B) There is a Commission for the Future of Local Veterans 29
Posts in Ohio, consisting of nine members. The President of the 30
Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each shall 31
appoint one member from their respective houses who shall serve as 32
co-chairpersons of the commission. The Minority Leader of the 33
Senate and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives 34
each shall appoint one member from their respective houses. The 35
President of the Senate shall appoint, upon recommendation of the 36
organization, a representative of AMVETS of Ohio. The Speaker of 37
the House of Representatives shall appoint, upon recommendation of 38
the organization, a representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars 39
of Ohio. The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint a veteran 40
who is a member of a local veterans post not otherwise represented 41
on the commission. The Minority Leader of the House of 42
Representatives shall appoint, upon recommendation of the 43
organization, a representative of the American Legion of Ohio. The 44
Director of Veterans Services is an ex officio member of the 45
commission. 46

Initial appointments to the commission shall be made not 47
later than September 1, 2009. Vacancies shall be filled in the 48

manner provided for original appointments. 49

Members of the commission are not entitled to compensation 50
for their services. 51

The commission shall conduct public meetings on the 52
development of its recommendations, and in particular on the 53
subjects it is required to analyze under division (A) of this 54
section. The initial meeting of the commission shall be called by 55
the co-chairpersons of the commission in October 2009. 56

(C) The commission shall report its recommendations and 57
reasons supporting them to the President of the Senate, the 58
Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of 59
the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, 60
and the Governor not later than March 31, 2010. The commission 61
ceases to exist upon submitting its recommendations. 62