

# COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

## 2006 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-17-2006

Chapter No. 11

Proposed and Presented by Council Members Knotts and Peters

Introduced by Council Members Knotts, Peters, Dean, Harrington, Campos and Dernoga

Co-Sponsors Council Member Bland

Date of Introduction May 16, 2006

### BILL

AN ACT concerning

Commission for Veterans

For the purpose of establishing a Commission for Veterans and setting forth its duties and responsibilities.

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

Sections 2-489, 2-490, 2-491, 2-492, 2-493, and  
2-494,

The Prince George's County Code  
(2003 Edition, 2005 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 2-489, 2-490, 2-492, 2-493 and 2-494 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby added:

**SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.**

**DIVISION 39. COMMISSION FOR VETERANS.**

**Sec. 2-489. Commission for Veterans; composition; terms; vacancies.**

(a) There is established a Commission for Veterans. The Commission shall consist of thirteen (13) voting members. Five (5) of the members shall be members of the general public. The Commission shall also include a representative submitted from each of the following organizations: the Veteran's of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Amvets, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Disabled American Veterans, the Vietnam Veterans of America,

1 the Marine Corps League, and the Women's Army Air Corps Association. The representative  
 2 from each organization listed above shall be a resident of the County and a veteran whose final  
 3 separation from active service with a uniformed service of the United States was under honorable  
 4 conditions. The appointment of the members of the Commission shall be by the County  
 5 Executive, subject to confirmation by the County Council. The County Executive shall  
 6 designate one (1) public member to serve as Chairman.

7 (b) The terms of office for the members of the Commission shall be staggered terms of  
 8 three (3) years each.

9 (c) Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired terms in the manner the  
 10 appointments are initially made. The Executive, upon the notification and recommendation of  
 11 the Chairperson of the Commission, will remove any member who has had more than three (3)  
 12 unexcused absences in one (1) year to be replaced in the manner prescribed above. The  
 13 members shall continue in office until their successors are appointed and have qualified.  
 14 Members shall be eligible for reappointment.

15 **Sec. 2-490. Commission meetings; report.**

16 (a) The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson or at the call of a majority of  
 17 the members of the Commission. The Commission shall meet as frequently as required to  
 18 perform its duties. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for  
 19 the transaction of business. A majority of those present at any meeting shall be sufficient for any  
 20 official action taken by the Commission.

21 (b) The Commission shall submit an annual report to the County Executive and the  
 22 Council concerning its activities and recommendations.

23 **Sec. 2-491. Duties and responsibilities of Commission.**

24 (a) The Commission shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

25 (1) Identify, analyze, and evaluate all programs and services in the State and County  
 26 related specifically to the needs of veterans, and to promote the development of other services  
 27 when a need for services is determined;

28 (2) Advise and counsel the residents of the County, the Council, the County  
 29 Executive, and the various departments of County, State and Federal governments on matters  
 30 involving the needs of veterans and to recommend such procedures, programs, or legislation as it  
 31 may deem necessary and proper to promote and insure equal rights and opportunities for all

1 veterans;

2 (3) Research, assemble, analyze, and disseminate pertinent data and educational  
3 materials relating to activities and programs which will assist in meeting the needs of veterans;

4 (4) Cooperate and promote with the County Veterans Affairs Service Center the  
5 development of an information and referral service for all services and programs for veterans;

6 (5) Institute and conduct educational and other programs, meetings, and conferences  
7 to promote equal rights and opportunities for veterans and cooperate with interested citizens,  
8 community, business, professional, technical, educational, and civic organizations;

9 (6) Hold such public forums or hearings as are necessary and appropriate to carry out  
10 the powers and duties of the Commission; and

11 (7) Commission members, through their coordination, planning and monitoring, shall  
12 help ensure that the continuum of services throughout the County remains efficient and effective.

13 **Sec. 2-492. Adoption of rules and regulations.**

14 (a) The Commission shall adopt such rules and procedures, subject to the approval of the  
15 County Executive, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Division.

16 (b) The Commission shall keep a record of its activities and minutes of all official  
17 meetings. The records and minutes shall be on file and shall be open to the public at reasonable  
18 business hours upon request.

19 **Sec. 2-493. Committees; advisory committees.**

20 (a) The Commission may establish such committees as are deemed necessary and  
21 appropriate to assist in its functions and duties. Members of such committees may include  
22 nonmembers of the Commission.

23 (b) The committee and advisory committee actions shall not be deemed to be the action of  
24 the Commission and shall in no way bind the Commission or its members.

25 **Sec. 2-494. Administrative support.**

26 Administrative support for the Commission shall be provided by the Department of Family  
27 Services.

1       SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)  
2 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2006.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas E. Dernoga  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jack B. Johnson  
County Executive

KEY:  
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.