

**SENATE BILL NO. 2346  
with House Amendments  
SENATE BILL NO. 2346**

Sixty-fourth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

Introduced by

Senator Dever

Representative Fehr

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to county veterans' service officers.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 37-14-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **37-14-18. County veterans' service officer - Appointment - Duties.**

7 The board of county commissioners of each county of the state of North Dakota shall  
8 appoint, employ, and pay, on a full-time or part-time basis, an officer to be known as a county  
9 veterans' service officer. The department of veterans' affairs commissioner may work directly  
10 with county veterans' service officers. An individual may serve as a county veterans' service  
11 officer in more than one county. The appointment must be ~~made~~maintained with the ~~prior~~  
12 ~~advice~~concurrence of the commissioner of veterans' affairs, and in accordance with veterans'  
13 preference as provided in section 37-19.1-02. ~~By August 1, 2011, all~~A county veterans' service  
14 ~~officers~~officer must be accredited by ~~the national association of county veterans' service~~  
15 ~~officers~~and maintain accreditation with the department of veterans' affairs, beginning within  
16 twelve months of the accreditation requirement applying to a county veterans' service officer. It  
17 is the duty of the county veterans' service officer to become acquainted with the laws, both state  
18 and federal, enacted for the benefit of returning servicemen and servicewomen to assist such  
19 returning members of the armed forces in the presentation, proof, and establishment of such  
20 claims, privileges, and rights as they have. It also is the duty of the county veterans' service  
21 officer to actively cooperate with and to coordinate the activities of the state and federal  
22 agencies within the county which the officer serves to facilitate their operation and ensure  
23 promptness in the solution of the problems concerned with the reestablishment of returning  
24 servicemen and servicewomen in civilian pursuits. A county veterans' service officer may not

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- 1 serve as a conservator for an individual who is receiving benefits or services from the
- 2 department of veterans' affairs or the United States department of veterans' affairs, except if the
- 3 individual is the spouse or an immediate family member of the officer.