

By Senator Burgess

23-00591C-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Veterans' History
3 Program; creating s. 265.8021, F.S.; defining the term
4 "veteran"; creating the Florida Veterans' History
5 Program within the Division of Arts and Culture of the
6 Department of State as a Florida Folklife Program;
7 providing the program's purpose; authorizing the
8 division to request assistance from the Department of
9 Veterans' Affairs; requiring the division's
10 folklorists to seek out and identify certain veterans;
11 authorizing the division or a folklorist to interview
12 such veterans or invite them to submit written or
13 electronic accounts of their experiences; authorizing
14 the division to contract with a third-party vendor for
15 a specified purpose; authorizing the division to adopt
16 rules; providing an effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. Section 265.8021, Florida Statutes, is created
21 to read:

22 265.8021 Florida Veterans' History Program.—

23 (1) As used in this section, the term "veteran" has the
24 same meaning as in s. 1.01(14).

25 (2) There is created the Florida Veterans' History Program
26 within the Division of Arts and Culture as a Florida Folklife
27 Program to collect and preserve the stories and experiences of
28 Florida's veterans and the State of Florida's military
29 contributions throughout the nation's history. The division may

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30 request assistance with the program from the Department of
31 Veterans' Affairs.

32 (3) In order to collect and preserve the stories and
33 experiences of Florida's veterans and the State of Florida's
34 military contributions throughout the nation's history, the
35 division's folklorists shall seek out and identify those
36 veterans who are willing to share their experiences. The
37 division or a folklorist may interview veterans or invite
38 veterans to submit written or electronic accounts of their
39 experiences for inclusion in the program.

40 (4) As provided in s. 265.802, the division may contract
41 with a third-party vendor to fulfill its responsibilities under
42 subsection (3).

43 (5) The division may adopt rules to implement the program.
44 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.