THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2086 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY MARKOSEK, HILL-EVANS, McNEILL, PIELLI, PROBST, SANCHEZ, GUENST, K.HARRIS, HADDOCK, DOUGHERTY, NEILSON, D. WILLIAMS, PARKER AND FRANKEL, DECEMBER 9, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, DECEMBER 9, 2025

AN ACT

Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, repealing provisions relating to advisory councils for veterans' homes; in the Adjutant General, further providing for general powers and duties of Adjutant General; 5 in State Veterans' Commission and Deputy Adjutant General for 6 Veterans' Affairs, repealing provisions relating to veterans' 7 home hall of fame; and providing for State veterans' homes and establishing the State Veterans' Home Board. 9 10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 11 hereby enacts as follows: 12 Section 1. Section 704 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania 13 Consolidated Statutes is repealed: 14 [§ 704. Advisory councils for veterans' homes. 15 (a) Establishment of advisory council. -- There is hereby 16 established an advisory council for each veterans' home operated 17 by the Commonwealth to provide stakeholders with a means to advise the Adjutant General on the resident care, management, 18 19 operations and compliance of facilities and services in veterans' homes to ensure high-quality health care and well-20

- 1 being for residents of veterans' homes. Each advisory council
- 2 shall consist of 15 members and the Adjutant General or the
- 3 Adjutant General's designee, who shall serve ex officio. The
- 4 following shall apply:
- (1) Ten of the members shall be appointed by the

 Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant

 General by the Pennsylvania War Veterans' Council. Appointees

 under this paragraph shall be veterans from the local
- 9 community of the veterans' home.
- 10 (2) Three of the members shall be appointed by the
 11 Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant
 12 General by current residents of the veterans' home and shall
 13 include a family member of a current or former resident of
 14 the veterans' home.
 - (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall each appoint one member from their respective bodies to serve on each council.
 - (4) The department shall designate a subject matter expert to attend each advisory council's meeting to provide input on the resident care, management, operations and compliance of facilities and services in each veterans' home.
- (b) Term of office and officers.--
- 23 (1) Each member of the councils appointed from the
 24 General Assembly shall serve for the duration of that General
 25 Assembly. Except as provided under paragraph (2), the
 26 thirteen members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term
 27 of three years.
- 28 (2) The initial thirteen members selected by the
 29 Governor on or after the effective date of this paragraph
 30 shall serve as follows: four members for one year, four

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- 1 members for two years and five members for three years as
- designated by the Governor.
- 3 (3) Each council shall organize as soon as possible and
- 4 shall annually elect a president, vice president and
- 5 secretary from the voting members.
- 6 (c) Removal for cause. -- The members appointed by the
- 7 Governor may be removed by the Governor for cause.
- 8 (d) Quorum and time of meetings. -- Six members of a council
- 9 shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the
- 10 business of the council. Each advisory council shall meet at
- 11 least quarterly and at other times at the call of the president.
- 12 Each advisory council shall conduct meetings in accordance with
- 13 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings).
- (e) Expenses. -- Members of each advisory council shall
- 15 receive no compensation for their services but shall receive
- 16 reimbursement for their necessary and proper expenses for
- 17 attendance at meetings.
- (f) Power and duty of advisory councils.--Each veterans'
- 19 home advisory council shall advise the Adjutant General as to
- 20 the resident care, management, operation and the compliance of
- 21 facilities and services at their respective homes.
- 22 (g) Annual reports. -- Each advisory council shall submit an
- 23 annual report to the department that identifies the work of the
- 24 advisory council, includes an overall assessment of the resident
- 25 care, management, operations and compliance of facilities and
- 26 services in each veterans' home and provides recommendations.
- 27 The department shall submit a consolidated report on the annual
- 28 reports submitted by each advisory council under this subsection
- 29 to the Adjutant General and the chair and minority chair of the
- 30 Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the

- 1 Senate and the chair and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs
- 2 and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of
- 3 Representatives no later than January 30, 2026, and each year
- 4 thereafter.]
- 5 Section 2. Section 902 introductory paragraph, (10) and (14)
- 6 of Title 51 are amended to read:
- 7 § 902. General powers and duties of Adjutant General.
- 8 The Adjutant General as head of the department is responsible
- 9 to the Commonwealth and to the Governor for the organization and
- 10 functioning of [said] the department, and the performance and
- 11 carrying out of all the duties, powers and responsibilities
- 12 given or delegated. In addition [he] the Adjutant General is
- 13 hereby authorized and directed to:
- 14 * * *
- [(10) Make such bylaws, rules and regulations for the
- management, general direction and control of the property of
- the Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home or homes
- wherever situate.]
- 19 * * *
- [(14) Authorize the admittance of any member of a group
- which has been granted veterans status by the Secretary of
- Defense and any spouse of a member to State veterans' homes,
- using admission criteria and procedures as established by the
- department by regulation.]
- 25 Section 3. Section 1705 of Title 51 is repealed:
- 26 [§ 1705. Veterans' home hall of fame.
- (a) General rule. -- Each veterans' home operated by the
- 28 Commonwealth shall establish and dedicate a hall of fame to
- 29 recognize and honor the military achievements of outstanding
- 30 veterans who have completed honorable, active duty military

- 1 service and who reside or resided in the geographic region
- 2 served by the veterans' home. The area or space in the veterans'
- 3 home dedicated to the hall of fame may be used for other
- 4 purposes.
- 5 (b) Selection of inductees. -- The advisory council for each
- 6 veterans' home shall, consistent with the guidelines established
- 7 by the commission in subsection (c), nominate eliqible veterans
- 8 for induction into the hall of fame by the commission and
- 9 perform such other duties relating to the hall of fame as
- 10 approved by the commission. Any Medal of Honor recipient shall
- 11 be automatically inducted into the hall of fame.
- 12 (c) Oversight. -- The commission shall develop guidelines for
- 13 the halls of fame. The guidelines shall include, but not be
- 14 limited to:
- 15 (1) Eliqibility criteria for qualified candidates.
- 16 (2) Procedures for nomination of candidates and
- selection of inductees.
- 18 (3) Ceremonies to officially honor the inductees.
- 19 (4) Manner of recognizing or presenting the inductees in
- the halls of fame.
- (5) Maintenance of the halls of fame.
- 22 (6) Duties of the advisory councils of the veterans'
- homes relating to the halls of fame.
- 24 (d) Documentation.--Each eliqible veteran or his or her
- 25 representative shall be responsible for obtaining the
- 26 documentation necessary to establish his or her eligibility from
- 27 the National Archives in Washington, D.C., or the National
- 28 Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, Missouri.
- (e) Centralized list. -- The State Veterans' Commission shall
- 30 keep a centralized list of all hall of fame inductees from all

- 1 regional veterans' homes.]
- 2 Section 4. Title 51 is amended by adding a chapter to read:
- 3 CHAPTER 20
- 4 STATE VETERANS' HOMES
- 5 Sec.
- 6 <u>2001</u>. <u>Definitions</u>.
- 7 2002. State veterans' homes.
- 8 <u>2003. State Veterans' Home Board.</u>
- 9 2004. Admissions.
- 10 2005. Resident rights.
- 11 2006. Local advisory councils.
- 12 2007. State veterans' home hall of fame.
- 13 <u>§ 2001. Definitions.</u>
- 14 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
- 15 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 16 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 17 "Adjutant General." The Adjutant General of the
- 18 Commonwealth.
- 19 "Admission committee." An admission committee at each State
- 20 veterans' home responsible for determining whether the home is
- 21 able to meet the needs of applicants and monitoring the home's
- 22 waiting list for admission.
- 23 "Board." The State Veterans' Home Board established under
- 24 section 2003 (relating to State Veterans' Home Board).
- 25 "Commandant." The administrator of a State veterans' home
- 26 who is licensed to operate the home in accordance with the laws
- 27 of this Commonwealth.
- 28 "Commission." The State Veterans' Commission.
- 29 "Council." A local advisory council authorized by this
- 30 chapter.

- 1 <u>"Eliqible veteran."</u> An individual who served in the Armed
- 2 Forces of the United States, including the National Guard or a
- 3 reserve component, or the Pennsylvania military forces who was
- 4 <u>discharged or released from service under other than</u>
- 5 <u>dishonorable conditions and who meets the admissions criteria</u>
- 6 prescribed by this chapter and established by the board.
- 7 "Nursing care." Care for an individual who is not acutely
- 8 <u>ill and not in need of hospital or personal care but who</u>
- 9 requires the services of a registered nurse or licensed
- 10 practical nurse.
- 11 "Personal care." Shelter, sustenance and incidental medical
- 12 <u>care to assist an individual who is disabled by age or disease</u>
- 13 but who is not in need of hospitalization or nursing care
- 14 <u>services to attain physical, mental and social well-being</u>
- 15 <u>through special rehabilitative programs.</u>
- 16 "Personal care home." As defined in section 1001 of the act
- 17 of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services
- 18 Code.
- 19 "Resident." An individual who is admitted to and resides in
- 20 <u>a State veterans' home.</u>
- 21 "Resident representative." As defined in 42 CFR 483.5
- 22 <u>(relating to definitions).</u>
- 23 "State veterans' home" or "home." A nursing home or personal
- 24 care home operated by the board for the provision of nursing
- 25 care, personal care or other health care services to eligible
- 26 <u>veterans</u>.
- 27 <u>§ 2002. State veterans' homes.</u>
- 28 State veterans' homes shall be established, operated and
- 29 maintained by the board. The homes shall provide care to
- 30 eligible veterans and their spouses in compliance with Federal

- 1 and State law.
- 2 § 2003. State Veterans' Home Board.
- 3 (a) Establishment.--The State Veterans' Home Board is
- 4 <u>established within the department for administrative purposes.</u>
- 5 The board shall exercise its powers and duties independently as
- 6 an autonomous entity within the department and report to the
- 7 Governor on matters concerning State veterans' homes.
- 8 (b) Membership. -- The board shall consist of the following
- 9 members:
- 10 (1) The Adjutant General or a designee.
- 11 (2) The Secretary of Health or a designee.
- 12 (3) The Secretary of Human Services or a designee.
- 13 <u>(4) Two nursing home administrators who shall be</u>
- 14 <u>appointed by the Governor.</u>
- 15 (5) Two licensed health care professionals with clinical
- 16 <u>experience in nursing homes who shall be appointed by the</u>
- 17 Governor.
- 18 (6) Three residents of separate State veterans' homes
- 19 who shall be appointed by the Governor.
- 20 (7) One qualified infection preventionist with clinical
- 21 <u>experience in nursing homes who shall be appointed by the</u>
- 22 Governor.
- 23 (c) Terms of office.--
- (1) Members of the board appointed by the Governor shall
- 25 serve a term of four years. The initial members appointed
- 26 under subsection (b) (4), (5), (6) and (7) shall serve as
- 27 follows:
- (i) one resident shall serve an initial term of one
- 29 <u>year;</u>
- 30 (ii) one nursing home administrator, one licensed

1	health care professional with clinical experience in
2	nursing homes and one resident shall serve an initial
3	<pre>term of two years;</pre>
4	(iii) one nursing home administrator, one licensed
5	health care professional with clinical experience in
6	nursing homes and one resident shall serve an initial
7	term of three years; and
8	(iv) the qualified infection preventionist shall
9	serve an initial term of one year.
10	(2) Upon completion of a term of a member who was
11	appointed under subsection (b)(6), the Governor may not
12	appoint the succeeding member from the same State veterans'
13	home as the previous outgoing member or the sitting resident
14	members of the board.
15	(3) Board members may be removed by the Governor for
16	<pre>cause at any time.</pre>
17	(d) Officers The board shall annually elect a chair and
18	vice chair. The chair may not be a public official appointed by
19	the Governor and subject to consent of the Senate.
20	(e) VacanciesUpon the death, resignation, removal or
21	disqualification of a member of the board under subsection (b)
22	(4), (5), (6) or (7), the Governor shall appoint a successor to
23	serve for the unexpired term.
24	(f) Expenses Members of the board may not receive
25	compensation for their services but shall be entitled to
26	reimbursement for all necessary travel and other reasonable
27	expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
28	(g) Meetings The board shall meet at least twice quarterly
29	and at other times at the call of the chair. The physical or
30	remote presence of five board members shall constitute a quorum.

- 1 Action of the board must be approved by a majority vote of the
- 2 members present at a meeting.
- 3 (h) Powers and duties. -- The board shall have the following
- 4 powers and duties:
- 5 <u>(1) Operate State veterans' homes.</u>
- 6 (2) Ensure that the highest quality of care is provided
- 7 <u>at State veterans' homes.</u>
- 8 (3) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary and
- 9 appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter,
- including the amendment and rescission of rules and
- 11 regulations promulgated prior to the effective date of this
- 12 <u>section by the department or Adjutant General.</u>
- 13 (4) Appoint for each State veterans' home a commandant
- 14 who shall be licensed in this Commonwealth as a nursing home
- 15 <u>administrator. When selecting a commandant, the board shall</u>
- give preference to veterans.
- 17 <u>(5) Visit and review the operation of State veterans'</u>
- 18 homes.
- 19 (6) Employ and contract with sufficient and qualified
- 20 staff necessary for the operation of the board and the State
- 21 <u>veterans' homes, including two infection control nurses at</u>
- 22 <u>each State veterans' home.</u>
- 23 (7) Establish requirements for minimum hours of direct
- 24 care for residents who require nursing care.
- 25 (8) Accept, on behalf of the Commonwealth, Federal funds
- and other funding, including gifts, grants and donations, to
- 27 operate State veterans' homes.
- 28 (9) Procure insurance against loss in connection with
- 29 property or other assets under the authority of the board.
- 30 (10) Obtain information about issues of resident care

Τ	<u>irom Department of Health Surveys, resident complaints, staff</u>
2	reports and other sources.
3	(11) Determine locations of new State veterans' homes. A
4	location for a new home must be at least 60 miles from an
5	existing home, unless the existing home has maintained at
6	least 85% occupancy over the past three years, in which case
7	the location for the new home must be within 25 miles of the
8	existing home. This paragraph does not apply to new buildings
9	or facilities within existing campuses of homes.
10	(12) Review clinical recordkeeping practices to ensure
11	compliance with Federal and State law.
12	(13) Establish standards for regular staff trainings on
13	fire safety, hazardous materials and chemical storage.
14	(14) Collaborate with commandants to establish
15	permanent, regularly updated crisis management plans at each
16	State veterans' home.
17	(15) Notify the General Assembly and the Governor of
18	problems, including administrative issues, resident safety
19	concerns and issues with staffing.
20	(16) Provide or contract with a third party to provide
21	optional estate planning services to each resident and
22	resident representative.
23	(i) Report
24	(1) The board shall biannually submit a report on the
25	operation of State veterans' homes to the Governor, the chair
26	and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency
27	Preparedness Committee of the Senate, the chair and minority
28	chair of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness
29	Committee of the House of Representatives, the chair and
30	minority chair of the Health and Human Services Committee of

Τ.	the senate and the chair and minority chair of the hearth
2	Committee of the House of Representatives. The report shall
3	<u>include:</u>
4	(i) Information concerning the extent to which each
5	State veterans' home is in compliance with Federal and
6	State law.
7	(ii) Action taken by the board to ensure that each
8	State veterans' home is in compliance with Federal and
9	State law.
10	(iii) The number of resident and staff complaints
11	and the resolution or planned resolution to the
12	complaints.
13	(iv) The number of staff employed at each State
14	veterans' home and the extent to which staffing levels
15	are or are not sufficient.
16	(v) Statistics about the residents of each State
17	<pre>veterans' home.</pre>
18	(vi) Information about the expenditure of funds.
19	(vii) Information about a new home that is expected
20	to open within the next year.
21	(viii) Recommendations for improvement at each State
22	<pre>veterans' home.</pre>
23	(ix) Other matters that the board deems pertinent.
24	(2) Information in the report that may identify a
25	particular staff member or resident may not be made publicly
26	available.
27	(3) The board shall post the report on the board's
28	publicly accessible Internet website. The board may redact
29	any information that is subject to paragraph (2).
30	§ 2004. Admissions.

- 1 (a) Eligibility. -- Subject to subsection (b), an individual
- 2 <u>is eliqible for admission to a State veterans' home if the</u>
- 3 individual meets the following eligibility criteria:
- 4 (1) The individual must be an eligible veteran, spouse
- of an eligible veteran or surviving spouse of an eligible
- 6 <u>veteran</u>.
- 7 (2) The individual must be a resident of this
- 8 <u>Commonwealth upon application for admission. An eligible</u>
- 9 <u>veteran who resides in another state may apply for admission</u>
- 10 <u>if this Commonwealth was listed as the eligible veteran's</u>
- 11 <u>home of record upon entry into service.</u>
- 12 (3) The individual must be approved for admission by the
- 13 <u>admission committee at the home. The board shall establish a</u>
- 14 <u>procedure by which a denial of admission may be appealed to</u>
- the council of the home.
- 16 (b) Ineligibility. -- Notwithstanding subsection (a), the
- 17 following individuals are ineligible for admission to a State
- 18 veterans' home:
- 19 (1) An individual who creates a reasonable threat to the
- health, safety or welfare of themselves or others.
- 21 (2) An individual who requires treatment or levels of
- 22 care that are not available at the home or reasonably
- 23 available in the immediate vicinity of the home. Unless the
- 24 requirements for treatment or levels of care exceed what is
- 25 available at the home or treatment or care options reasonably
- available within the immediate vicinity of the home, an
- individual may not be denied admission solely on the basis of
- 28 a mental health condition.
- 29 <u>(c) Applications.--The board shall develop an application</u>
- 30 for admission to a State veterans' home and shall make the

- 1 application available at each State veterans' home and on the
- 2 <u>board's publicly accessible Internet website.</u>
- 3 (d) Voluntary admissions.--
- 4 (1) An individual may not be required to accept an offer
- 5 <u>of admission to a State veterans' home.</u>
- 6 (2) An individual may not be admitted or readmitted to a
- 7 home against the will of the individual.
- 8 (3) An acceptance of an offer of admission may not be
- 9 <u>conditioned on the surrender of any personal property.</u>
- 10 § 2005. Resident rights.
- 11 <u>(a) Complaints.--</u>
- 12 (1) A resident of a State veterans' home has the right
- 13 <u>to access a formal complaint process.</u>
- 14 (2) The commandant of a State veterans' home shall
- 15 <u>inform each individual in writing at the time of admission to</u>
- the State veterans' home of the individual's right to
- 17 complain to the commandant or the board about care,
- 18 accommodations, services and other matters.
- 19 (3) A resident may make complaints or recommend changes
- 20 to policies to staff, the commandant, the board and to other
- 21 <u>individuals free from coercion, discrimination and</u>
- 22 retaliation.
- 23 (b) Privacy.--
- 24 (1) A resident has a right to a presumption of privacy
- of the resident's persons and property against unreasonable
- intrusion, searches and seizures.
- 27 (2) A resident and the resident's representative shall
- be informed in writing of the reasons necessitating a search
- of the resident's room or property by staff of the State
- 30 veterans' home and may be present during the search if the

1	resident or resident's representative requests to be present.
2	(3) If staff of the State veterans' home takes a
3	resident's property or other item, the State veterans' home
4	shall provide to the resident and the resident's
5	representative a written receipt describing the property or
6	<u>items taken.</u>
7	(4) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to
8	restrict staff of the State veterans' home from entering a
9	resident's room to provide care, maintenance, housekeeping or
10	other services.
11	(5) Unauthorized searches or seizures of resident
12	property by a member of the staff may be grounds for
13	dismissal of the member.
14	(c) Transfers and discharges
15	(1) A State veterans' home shall inform a resident and
16	the resident's representative in writing of a transfer or
17	discharge of a resident and the reasons for the transfer or
18	discharge.
19	(2) Except where the health or safety of a resident in
20	the State veterans' home would be endangered or an urgent
21	transfer or discharge is required because of the resident's
22	medical needs, notice of transfer or discharge shall be
23	provided at least 30 days before the planned transfer or
24	discharge.
25	(3) The board may establish additional standards for
26	transfers and discharges of residents.

- (d) Property of discharged residents.--27
- (1) At discharge of a resident, the commandant shall 28 hold any unclaimed property of the resident for 12 months. 29 During that time period, the commandant shall promptly give 30

- 1 <u>notice to the resident and the resident's representative</u>
- 2 <u>about the unclaimed property.</u>
- 3 (2) If the resident or the resident's representative has
- 4 <u>not claimed the unclaimed property at the expiration of 12</u>
- 5 <u>months after the discharge of the resident, the unclaimed</u>
- 6 property shall be deemed to be the property of the State
- 7 veterans' home and shall be subject to the home's control and
- 8 disposal and not subject to Article XIII.1 of the act of
- 9 April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code.
- 10 (e) Property of deceased residents.--
- 11 (1) At death of a resident, the commandant shall hold
- 12 <u>any unclaimed property of the resident for 12 months. During</u>
- that time period, the commandant shall promptly give notice
- 14 <u>to the resident's representative or next of kin about the</u>
- 15 unclaimed property.
- 16 (2) If no resident representative or next of kin has
- 17 claimed the unclaimed property at the expiration of 12 months
- 18 after death of the resident, the unclaimed property shall be
- 19 deemed to be the property of the State veterans' home and
- shall be subject to the home's control and disposal and not
- 21 subject to Article XIII.1 of The Fiscal Code.
- 22 § 2006. Local advisory councils.
- 23 (a) Establishment of advisory council. -- An advisory council
- 24 shall be established for each State veterans' home to provide
- 25 <u>stakeholders with a means to advise the Adjutant General on the</u>
- 26 resident care management, operations and compliance of
- 27 facilities and services in State veterans' homes to ensure high-
- 28 quality health care and well-being for residents of State
- 29 veterans' homes.
- 30 (b) Membership.--Each advisory council shall consist of the

- 1 members provided under this subsection and the Adjutant General
- 2 or the Adjutant General's designee, who shall serve ex officio.
- 3 The following shall apply:
- 4 (1) Ten of the members shall be appointed by the
- 5 Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant
- 6 General by the Pennsylvania War Veterans' Council. Appointees
- 7 <u>under this paragraph shall be veterans from the local</u>
- 8 <u>community of the State veterans' home.</u>
- 9 (2) Three of the members shall be appointed by the
- Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant
- 11 <u>General by current residents of the State veterans' home and</u>
- 12 <u>shall include a family member of a current or former resident</u>
- of the State veterans' home.
- 14 (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
- 15 <u>President pro tempore of the Senate shall each appoint one</u>
- 16 <u>member from their respective bodies to serve on each advisory</u>
- 17 council.
- 18 (4) The department shall designate a subject matter
- 19 <u>expert to attend each advisory council's meeting to provide</u>
- input on the resident care, management, operations and
- 21 compliance of facilities and services in each State veterans'
- home.
- 23 (c) Term of office and officers.--
- (1) Each member of an advisory council appointed from
- 25 <u>the General Assembly shall serve for the duration of that</u>
- General Assembly. Except as provided under paragraph (2), the
- 27 <u>members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of three</u>
- 28 years.
- 29 (2) The initial 13 members appointed by the Governor
- 30 shall serve as follows, as designated by the Governor:

1	(i) Four members for one year.
2	(ii) Four members for two years.
3	(iii) Five members for three years.
4	(3) Each advisory council shall organize as soon as
5	possible and shall annually elect a president, vice president
6	and secretary from the voting members.
7	(d) Removal for cause The members appointed by the
8	Governor may be removed by the Governor for cause.
9	(e) Quorum and time of meetings
10	(1) Six members of an advisory council shall constitute
11	a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of the
12	advisory council.
13	(2) Each advisory council shall meet at least quarterly
14	and at other times at the call of the president.
15	(3) Each advisory council shall conduct meetings in
16	accordance with 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings).
17	(f) Expenses Members of an advisory council may not
18	receive compensation for their services but shall receive
19	reimbursement for their necessary and proper expenses for
20	attendance at meetings.
21	(g) Powers and duties of advisory councils Each advisory
22	council shall have the following powers and duties:
23	(1) Advise the Adjutant General as to the resident care,
24	management, operation and compliance of facilities and
25	services at their respective State veterans' homes.
26	(2) Advise the commandant and the board regarding
27	quality of care and resident and staff safety concerns at the
28	State veterans' home.
29	(3) Nominate qualifying veterans for induction to the
30	veterans' hall of fame maintained at the State veterans' home

- 1 consistent with quidelines established by the commission and
- 2 perform other duties relating to the hall of fame.
- 3 (h) Annual reports.--Each advisory council shall submit an
- 4 <u>annual report to the department that identifies the work of the</u>
- 5 advisory council, includes an overall assessment of the resident
- 6 care, management, operations and compliance of facilities and
- 7 <u>services in each State veterans' home and provides</u>
- 8 <u>recommendations. The department shall submit a consolidated</u>
- 9 report on the annual reports submitted by each advisory council
- 10 under this subsection to the Adjutant General and the
- 11 chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and
- 12 Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate and the
- 13 <u>chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and</u>
- 14 Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives
- 15 no later than January 30, 2026, and each year thereafter.
- 16 § 2007. State veterans' home hall of fame.
- 17 (a) Duty to establish and maintain. -- Each State veterans'
- 18 home shall establish, dedicate and maintain a hall of fame to
- 19 recognize and honor the military achievements of outstanding
- 20 veterans who reside or resided in the geographic region served
- 21 by the State veterans' home. The area or space in the State
- 22 veterans' home dedicated to the hall of fame may be used for
- 23 other purposes.
- 24 (b) Selection of inductees. -- The council shall, consistent
- 25 with the guidelines established by the commission under
- 26 subsection (c), nominate qualifying veterans for induction into
- 27 the hall of fame by the commission and perform other duties
- 28 relating to the hall of fame as approved by the commission. A
- 29 Medal of Honor recipient shall be automatically inducted into
- 30 the hall of fame.

- 1 (c) Oversight. -- The commission shall develop quidelines for
- 2 the hall of fame. The quidelines shall include:
- 3 (1) Eligibility criteria for a qualifying veteran.
- 4 (2) The procedure for nomination of a qualifying veteran
- 5 and selection of an inductee.
- 6 (3) The ceremony to officially honor an inductee.
- 7 (4) The manner of recognizing or presenting an inductee
- 8 in the hall of fame.
- 9 <u>(5) Maintenance of the hall of fame.</u>
- 10 (6) The duties of a council relating to the hall of
- 11 <u>fame.</u>
- 12 (d) Documentation. -- A qualifying veteran or a representative
- 13 of a qualifying veteran must obtain and submit the documentation
- 14 necessary to establish the qualifying veteran's eligibility from
- 15 the National Archives in Washington, DC, or the National
- 16 Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, Missouri.
- (e) Centralized list. -- The commission shall keep a
- 18 centralized list of all hall of fame inductees from all State
- 19 veterans' homes.
- 20 Section 5. Any and all regulations are abrogated to the
- 21 extent of any inconsistency with this act.
- 22 Section 6. This act shall take effect in 180 days.