



March 13, 2013

**ENGROSSED  
HOUSE BILL No. 1387**

DIGEST OF HB 1387 (Updated March 12, 2013 11:35 am - DI 71)

**Citations Affected:** IC 10-16; IC 10-17.

**Synopsis:** Veterans' affairs. Creates the Indiana Funeral Honors Ribbon to be awarded to members and retired members of the Indiana Air National Guard and the Indiana Army National Guard and members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars who: (1) are trained and certified to provide; and (2) provide honorable and distinguished service in; the performance of military funerals and similar activities within Indiana. Provides that county and city service officers must be certified by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs (department). Requires the veterans' affairs commission to: (1) establish standards for certification of county and city service officers; and (2) establish and administer a written examination for renewal of the certification of county and city service officers. Requires a county  
(Continued next page)

**Effective:** Upon passage; July 1, 2013.

**Speedy, Davisson,  
Candelaria Reardon**

(SENATE SPONSORS — WYSS, MERRITT, BANKS, ARNOLD J, CRIDER)

January 22, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.  
January 31, 2013, amended, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 127.  
February 12, 2013, amended, reported — Do Pass.  
February 14, 2013, read second time, ordered engrossed. Engrossed.  
February 18, 2013, read third time, passed. Yeas 97, nays 1.  
SENATE ACTION  
February 25, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Transportation and Veterans Affairs.  
March 12, 2013, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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or city service officer to obtain certification from the department within 30 days after becoming employed as a service officer. Requires a new county or city service officer, within one year after becoming employed as a service officer, to attend a course and become accredited to represent veterans. Requires a county or city service officer employed prior to July 1, 2013, to attend a course and become accredited to represent veterans by July 1, 2015. Requires the veterans' affairs commission to administer a grant program to reimburse service officers for training expenses and to reimburse counties and cities employing service officers for computer equipment and software. Transfers \$180,000 from the veterans' affairs trust fund to the military family relief fund. Appropriates the \$180,000 for the grant program. Provides that funding the grants is a purpose of the military family relief fund.

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March 13, 2013

First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1387

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning the military and veterans and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 10-16-12-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
2 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 1. The following awards and decorations are  
4 established to be bestowed upon the officers and enlisted persons of the  
5 armed forces of Indiana under the conditions and in the manner  
6 provided in this article:  
7 (1) An Indiana Distinguished Service Cross shall be awarded to  
8 any commissioned officer or enlisted person of the militia, who:  
9 (A) performs, at great personal danger and risk of life or limb  
10 in peace or war, any act of heroism designed to protect life or  
11 property; or  
12 (B) in the face of a military or armed enemy of the United  
13 States government or of the state of Indiana, performs an act  
14 over and beyond the call of duty, which act, danger, or risk the  
15 officer or enlisted person could have failed to perform or incur  
16 without being subject to censure for neglect of duty.  
17 (2) An Indiana Distinguished Service Medal shall be awarded to

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1 a commissioned officer or an enlisted person of the militia and  
 2 other officers, enlisted persons, and civilians, who perform  
 3 unusually distinguished or meritorious service, that:

4 (A) to a marked degree is reflected in the increased efficiency  
 5 of the militia; or

6 (B) brings exceptional and great honor or credit to the Indiana  
 7 armed forces and commands the attention and respect of the  
 8 citizens of Indiana and of the military establishment  
 9 throughout the United States.

10 (3) Long Service Medals shall be awarded to officers and enlisted  
 11 persons for honest and faithful service in the federally recognized  
 12 Indiana national guard for periods of:

13 (A) ten (10) years;

14 (B) fifteen (15) years;

15 (C) twenty (20) years;

16 (D) twenty-five (25) years; and

17 (E) for longer periods.

18 A symbol shall be worn on the ribbon of each medal, one (1) for  
 19 each year in addition to the period for which the medal was  
 20 issued, until the officer or enlisted person is entitled to a medal  
 21 for the next period for which a different long service medal is  
 22 issued.

23 (4) An Indiana national guard commendation medal shall be  
 24 awarded to any commissioned officer or enlisted person of the  
 25 militia and other officers, enlisted persons, and civilians, who  
 26 have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement or  
 27 meritorious service. The required meritorious achievement or  
 28 meritorious service while of lesser degree than that required for  
 29 the award of the Indiana distinguished service medal must have  
 30 been accomplished with distinction. The award may be made for  
 31 acts of outstanding courage that do not meet the requirements for  
 32 award of the Indiana distinguished service medal. It is particularly  
 33 desirable that emphasis be placed on the award of this decoration  
 34 to outstanding company grade officers, warrant officers, and  
 35 enlisted personnel whose achievements and service meet the  
 36 prescribed standards.

37 (5) An Indiana Emergency Service Ribbon shall be awarded to all  
 38 currently assigned officers, warrant officers, and enlisted  
 39 members of the Indiana national guard who have served on state  
 40 active duty during a state emergency. For purposes of this  
 41 subdivision, "state emergency" means any emergency for any  
 42 period declared by the governor or the adjutant general. The

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1 Indiana emergency service ribbon shall be awarded to denote  
 2 honorable state active military duty by members of the Indiana  
 3 army and air national guard during state emergencies.

4 (6) Other medals for any war or campaign or mobilization for  
 5 which a medal has not been awarded by the federal government  
 6 may be:

7 (A) established by executive order of the governor; and

8 (B) awarded to members of any federally recognized military  
 9 force of the state who participated in the military force.

10 (7) An Air National Guard First Sergeant Ribbon is authorized for  
 11 a currently assigned member who serves or has previously served  
 12 as a first sergeant in the Indiana Air National Guard, if the  
 13 member meets the criteria set forth in clause (A). A request for an  
 14 award, including a retroactive award, must be submitted in the  
 15 manner set forth in clause (B), and meet any other criteria  
 16 established by the adjutant general. The ribbon shall consist of a  
 17 plain blue field with a silver diamond device in the center, and no  
 18 medal shall accompany the award of the ribbon. The ribbon shall  
 19 be awarded as follows:

20 (A) In recognition of meritorious service by a member of the  
 21 Indiana Air National Guard who has served in the first  
 22 sergeant career field, Special Duty Identifier 8F000, and who  
 23 meets the following criteria:

24 (i) Has been assigned to a valid first sergeant position for at  
 25 least three (3) years.

26 (ii) Graduated from either the United States Air Force  
 27 Academy or the Army National Guard First Sergeant  
 28 Academy.

29 (B) The individual unit commander of a member of the  
 30 Indiana Air National Guard who meets the criteria set forth in  
 31 clause (A) shall submit a letter to the wing commander,  
 32 recommending the member for the award based upon the  
 33 member's contributions, conduct, and demonstrated leadership  
 34 as a first sergeant. If the wing commander approves, the wing  
 35 commander shall forward the letter of recommendation to the  
 36 military personnel flight commanding officer for action. If the  
 37 wing commander disapproves, the wing commander shall  
 38 return the letter of recommendation to the unit commander.

39 (C) The adjutant general shall establish procedures for the  
 40 award presentation ceremony following accepted practice and  
 41 military tradition.

42 **(8) An Indiana Funeral Honors Ribbon shall be awarded to all**

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1 members of the Indiana Air National Guard, the Indiana  
 2 Army National Guard, retired members of the Indiana Air  
 3 National Guard and Indiana Army National Guard, and  
 4 members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign  
 5 Wars organizations who have been trained and certified by  
 6 the United States Department of Defense as Department of  
 7 Defense Funeral Honors participants. The Indiana Funeral  
 8 Honors Ribbon shall be awarded to denote honorable and  
 9 distinguished service in the performance of military funerals  
 10 and similar activities within Indiana.

11 For the purposes of this article, officers and enlisted persons of the  
 12 regular army assigned to the armed forces of Indiana as instructors and  
 13 assistant instructors shall be considered as officers and enlisted persons  
 14 of the Indiana armed forces.

15 SECTION 2. IC 10-17-1-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 16 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 4. The commission  
 17 ~~may~~ shall do acts necessary or reasonably incident to the fulfillment of  
 18 the purposes of this chapter, including the following:

- 19 (1) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to administer this chapter.
- 20 (2) Advise the veterans' state service officer in problems  
 21 concerning the welfare of veterans.
- 22 (3) Determine general administrative policies within the  
 23 department.
- 24 (4) Establish standards for certification of county and city  
 25 service officers.
- 26 (5) Establish and administer a written examination for  
 27 renewal of the certification of county and city service officers.

28 SECTION 3. IC 10-17-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 29 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 10. (a) **Within**  
 30 **thirty (30) days of their appointment, new county or city service**  
 31 **officers must attend a new service officer orientation presented by**  
 32 **the Indiana department of veterans' affairs and, according to the**  
 33 **standards established under section 4(4) of this chapter, become**  
 34 **certified to assist veterans and their dependents and survivors. The**  
 35 **curriculum for the new service officer orientation presented under**  
 36 **this subsection shall be determined by the director.**

37 (b) **Within one (1) year of appointment, new service officers**  
 38 **must attend a course presented by a national organization and**  
 39 **become accredited to represent veterans.**

40 (c) **An individual employed as a county or city service officer**  
 41 **under this chapter on July 1, 2013, is required to become**  
 42 **accredited not later than July 1, 2015, to represent veterans.**



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1            **(d) Annually, a all county or city service officer officers shall in the**  
 2 **discretion of the director of veterans' affairs,** undergo a course of  
 3 training to adequately address problems of discharged veterans in the  
 4 service officer's county or city, including a thorough familiarization  
 5 with laws, rules, and regulations of the federal government and the  
 6 state that affect benefits to which the veterans and dependents of the  
 7 veterans are entitled. **After a service officer has undergone this**  
 8 **sustainment training and successfully passed a written test, the**  
 9 **service officer shall be recertified by the director to assist veterans**  
 10 **for the following year.**

11            SECTION 4. IC 10-17-12-0.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.50-2009,  
 12 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 13 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 0.7. **(a)** The purpose of the fund established  
 14 in section 8 of this chapter is to provide:

15            **(1)** short term financial assistance to families of qualified service  
 16 members for hardships that result from the qualified service  
 17 members' active duty service; **and**

18            **(2) funding for:**

19            **(A) grants for reimbursement for training; and**

20            **(B) the purchase of computer equipment and software;**

21 **for county and city veterans' service officers.**

22            **(b) Funding for the purposes described in subsection (a)(2) must**  
 23 **be provided from the amount transferred to the fund under section**  
 24 **13 of this chapter.**

25            SECTION 5. IC 10-17-12-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.54-2012,  
 26 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 27 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 8. **(a)** The military family relief fund is  
 28 established to provide assistance with food, housing, utilities, medical  
 29 services, basic transportation, child care, education, employment or  
 30 workforce, and other essential family support expenses that have  
 31 become difficult to afford for qualified service members or dependents  
 32 of qualified service members. **The fund may also be used to provide**  
 33 **for grants for reimbursement for training and for computer**  
 34 **equipment and software for county and city veterans' service**  
 35 **officers.**

36            **(b)** Except as provided in section 9 of this chapter, the commission  
 37 shall expend the money in the fund exclusively to provide grants for  
 38 assistance as described in subsection (a). The director shall each year  
 39 provide a report to the budget committee concerning the grant program  
 40 under this chapter.

41            **(c)** A qualified service member or the qualified service member's  
 42 dependent may be eligible to receive assistance from the fund for up to

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1 three (3) years after the earlier of the following:

2 (1) The date the qualified service member's active duty service  
3 ends.

4 (2) The date, as established by presidential proclamation or by  
5 law, of the cessation of the national conflict or war with respect  
6 to which the qualified service member is eligible to receive  
7 assistance under section 7.5(3)(B) of this chapter.

8 (d) The commission shall administer the fund.

9 SECTION 6. IC 10-17-12-13 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
10 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
11 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 13. (a) The commission shall**  
12 **transfer one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000) from the**  
13 **veterans' affairs trust fund established by IC 10-17-13-3 to the**  
14 **fund.**

15 (b) There is appropriated to the commission one hundred eighty  
16 thousand dollars (\$180,000) from the fund for:

17 (1) grants for training county and city veterans' service  
18 officers under IC 10-17-1-10; and

19 (2) the purchase of computer equipment and software to be  
20 used by the city and county veterans' service officers.

21 (c) A county or city veterans' service officer may receive a grant  
22 for reimbursement for training expenses associated with service  
23 officer training, including travel and incidental expenses of eligible  
24 county and city veterans' service officers seeking initial or renewal  
25 service officer accreditation. A county or city veterans' service  
26 officer may receive a grant under this subsection in an amount not  
27 to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for reimbursement. The  
28 commission shall set standards for the reimbursement grants. A  
29 county or city veterans' service officer may apply to the  
30 commission for a reimbursement grant, and the commission may  
31 make a grant based on the commission's review of an application.

32 (d) A county or city that employs a veterans' service officer may  
33 receive a grant, in an amount not to exceed one thousand two  
34 hundred dollars (\$1,200), for reimbursement for computer  
35 equipment and software to enable the veterans' service officer to  
36 access national data bases for benefits for veterans. The  
37 commission shall set standards for the review of grants for the  
38 purchase of computer equipment and software under this  
39 subsection. A county or city may apply to the commission for a  
40 grant for reimbursement for the purchase of computer equipment  
41 and software, and the commission may make a grant based on the  
42 commission's review of an application.



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1        **SECTION 7. An emergency is declared for this act.**

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety, to which was referred House Bill 1387, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Delete the title and insert the following:

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning the military and veterans and to make an appropriation.

Page 1, line 2, strike "may" and insert "**shall**".

Page 1, delete lines 14 through 17.

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 28.

Page 2, line 30, delete "Annually," and insert "**Within thirty (30) days of their appointment, new county or city service officers must attend a new service officer orientation presented by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs and, according to the standards established under section 4(4) of this chapter, become certified to assist veterans and their dependents and survivors. The curriculum for the new service officer orientation presented under this subsection shall be determined by the director.**

**(b) Within one (1) year of appointment, new service officers must attend a course presented by a national organization and become accredited to represent veterans.**

**(c) An individual employed as a county or city service officer under this chapter on July 1, 2013, is required to become accredited not later than July 1, 2015, to represent veterans.**

**(d) Annually,".**

Page 2, line 30, strike "a" and insert "**all**".

Page 2, line 31, strike "officer" and insert "**officers**".

Page 2, line 32, delete "enable the service".

Page 2, line 33, delete "officer to".

Page 2, line 34, delete "." and insert ",".

Page 2, line 34, reset in roman "including".

Page 2, line 34, delete "The course of training must".

Page 2, line 35, delete "provide".

Page 2, line 37, after "entitled." insert "**After a service officer has undergone this sustainment training and successfully passed a written test, the service officer shall be recertified by the director to assist veterans for the following year.**

SECTION 3. IC 10-17-14 IS ADDED THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]:

**Chapter 14. Service Officer Scholarship Fund**

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**Sec. 1. (a) The service officer scholarship fund is established to provide scholarships to eligible applicants for expenses associated with service officer training, including travel and incidental expenses of eligible applicants seeking initial and renewal service officer accreditation.**

**(b) The department shall administer the fund. The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.**

**(c) There is annually appropriated to the service officer scholarship fund from the state general fund forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000) to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The fund may accept grants, gifts, and donations.**

**(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds. Interest that accrues from those investments shall be deposited in the fund.**

**(e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.**

**Sec. 2. Money in the service officer scholarship fund shall be used to provide scholarships for expenses associated with service officer training, including travel and incidental expenses to service officer training applicants in the following amounts:**

**(1) Up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for an applicant seeking an initial service officer accreditation.**

**(2) Up to two hundred dollars (\$200) for an applicant seeking to renew a service officer accreditation.**

**Sec. 3. A service officer scholarship applicant shall apply for a scholarship under this chapter in a manner determined by the department. The department shall determine the criteria that must be met by each applicant to qualify for a scholarship under this chapter.**

**Sec. 4. The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter."**

Page 2, delete lines 38 through 42.

Delete page 3.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1387 as introduced.)

FRYE R, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 11, nays 0.

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred House Bill 1387, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Replace the effective dates in SECTIONS 1 through 2 with "[EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]".

Page 2, delete lines 22 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 3. IC 10-17-12-0.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.50-2009, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 0.7. **(a)** The purpose of the fund established in section 8 of this chapter is to provide:

**(1)** short term financial assistance to families of qualified service members for hardships that result from the qualified service members' active duty service; **and**

**(2) funding for:**

**(A) grants for reimbursement for training; and**

**(B) the purchase of computer equipment and software;**

**for county and city veterans' service officers.**

**(b) Funding for the purposes described in subsection (a)(2) must be provided from the amount transferred to the fund under section 13 of this chapter.**

SECTION 4. IC 10-17-12-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.54-2012, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 8. (a) The military family relief fund is established to provide assistance with food, housing, utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care, education, employment or workforce, and other essential family support expenses that have become difficult to afford for qualified service members or dependents of qualified service members. **The fund may also be used to provide for grants for reimbursement for training and for computer equipment and software for county and city veterans' service officers.**

(b) Except as provided in section 9 of this chapter, the commission shall expend the money in the fund exclusively to provide grants for assistance as described in subsection (a). The director shall each year provide a report to the budget committee concerning the grant program under this chapter.

(c) A qualified service member or the qualified service member's dependent may be eligible to receive assistance from the fund for up to three (3) years after the earlier of the following:

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(1) The date the qualified service member's active duty service ends.

(2) The date, as established by presidential proclamation or by law, of the cessation of the national conflict or war with respect to which the qualified service member is eligible to receive assistance under section 7.5(3)(B) of this chapter.

(d) The commission shall administer the fund.

SECTION 5. IC 10-17-12-13 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 13. (a) The commission shall transfer one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000) from the veterans' affairs trust fund established by IC 10-17-13-3 to the fund.**

**(b) There is appropriated to the commission one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000) from the fund for:**

**(1) grants for training county and city veterans' service officers under IC 10-17-1-10; and**

**(2) the purchase of computers and software to be used by the city and county veterans' service officers.**

**(c) A county or city veterans' service officer may receive a grant for reimbursement for training expenses associated with service officer training, including travel and incidental expenses of eligible county and city veterans' service officers seeking initial or renewal service officer accreditation. A county or city veterans' service officer may receive a grant under this subsection in an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for reimbursement. The commission shall set standards for the reimbursement grants. A county or city veterans' service officer may apply to the commission for a reimbursement grant, and the commission may make a grant based on the commission's review of an application.**

**(d) A county or city that employs a veterans' service officer may receive a grant, in an amount not to exceed one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200), for reimbursement for computer hardware and software to enable the veterans' service officer to access national data bases for benefits for veterans. The commission shall set standards for the review of grants for the purchase of computer hardware and software under this subsection. A county or city may apply to the commission for a grant for reimbursement for the purchase of computer hardware and software, and the commission may make a grant based on the commission's review of an application.**

SECTION 6. An emergency is declared for this act."



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Delete page 3.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1387 as printed February 1, 2013.)

BROWN T, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 18, nays 0.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Transportation and Veterans Affairs, to which was referred House Bill No. 1387, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, between the enacting clause and line 1, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 1. IC 10-16-12-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 1. The following awards and decorations are established to be bestowed upon the officers and enlisted persons of the armed forces of Indiana under the conditions and in the manner provided in this article:

- (1) An Indiana Distinguished Service Cross shall be awarded to any commissioned officer or enlisted person of the militia, who:
  - (A) performs, at great personal danger and risk of life or limb in peace or war, any act of heroism designed to protect life or property; or
  - (B) in the face of a military or armed enemy of the United States government or of the state of Indiana, performs an act over and beyond the call of duty, which act, danger, or risk the officer or enlisted person could have failed to perform or incur without being subject to censure for neglect of duty.
- (2) An Indiana Distinguished Service Medal shall be awarded to a commissioned officer or an enlisted person of the militia and other officers, enlisted persons, and civilians, who perform unusually distinguished or meritorious service, that:
  - (A) to a marked degree is reflected in the increased efficiency of the militia; or
  - (B) brings exceptional and great honor or credit to the Indiana

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armed forces and commands the attention and respect of the citizens of Indiana and of the military establishment throughout the United States.

(3) Long Service Medals shall be awarded to officers and enlisted persons for honest and faithful service in the federally recognized Indiana national guard for periods of:

- (A) ten (10) years;
- (B) fifteen (15) years;
- (C) twenty (20) years;
- (D) twenty-five (25) years; and
- (E) for longer periods.

A symbol shall be worn on the ribbon of each medal, one (1) for each year in addition to the period for which the medal was issued, until the officer or enlisted person is entitled to a medal for the next period for which a different long service medal is issued.

(4) An Indiana national guard commendation medal shall be awarded to any commissioned officer or enlisted person of the militia and other officers, enlisted persons, and civilians, who have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement or meritorious service. The required meritorious achievement or meritorious service while of lesser degree than that required for the award of the Indiana distinguished service medal must have been accomplished with distinction. The award may be made for acts of outstanding courage that do not meet the requirements for award of the Indiana distinguished service medal. It is particularly desirable that emphasis be placed on the award of this decoration to outstanding company grade officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel whose achievements and service meet the prescribed standards.

(5) An Indiana Emergency Service Ribbon shall be awarded to all currently assigned officers, warrant officers, and enlisted members of the Indiana national guard who have served on state active duty during a state emergency. For purposes of this subdivision, "state emergency" means any emergency for any period declared by the governor or the adjutant general. The Indiana emergency service ribbon shall be awarded to denote honorable state active military duty by members of the Indiana army and air national guard during state emergencies.

(6) Other medals for any war or campaign or mobilization for which a medal has not been awarded by the federal government may be:

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- (A) established by executive order of the governor; and
- (B) awarded to members of any federally recognized military force of the state who participated in the military force.

(7) An Air National Guard First Sergeant Ribbon is authorized for a currently assigned member who serves or has previously served as a first sergeant in the Indiana Air National Guard, if the member meets the criteria set forth in clause (A). A request for an award, including a retroactive award, must be submitted in the manner set forth in clause (B), and meet any other criteria established by the adjutant general. The ribbon shall consist of a plain blue field with a silver diamond device in the center, and no medal shall accompany the award of the ribbon. The ribbon shall be awarded as follows:

- (A) In recognition of meritorious service by a member of the Indiana Air National Guard who has served in the first sergeant career field, Special Duty Identifier 8F000, and who meets the following criteria:

- (i) Has been assigned to a valid first sergeant position for at least three (3) years.
- (ii) Graduated from either the United States Air Force Academy or the Army National Guard First Sergeant Academy.

(B) The individual unit commander of a member of the Indiana Air National Guard who meets the criteria set forth in clause (A) shall submit a letter to the wing commander, recommending the member for the award based upon the member's contributions, conduct, and demonstrated leadership as a first sergeant. If the wing commander approves, the wing commander shall forward the letter of recommendation to the military personnel flight commanding officer for action. If the wing commander disapproves, the wing commander shall return the letter of recommendation to the unit commander.

(C) The adjutant general shall establish procedures for the award presentation ceremony following accepted practice and military tradition.

**(8) An Indiana Funeral Honors Ribbon shall be awarded to all members of the Indiana Air National Guard, the Indiana Army National Guard, retired members of the Indiana Air National Guard and Indiana Army National Guard, and members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations who have been trained and certified by the United States Department of Defense as Department of**

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**Defense Funeral Honors participants. The Indiana Funeral Honors Ribbon shall be awarded to denote honorable and distinguished service in the performance of military funerals and similar activities within Indiana.**

For the purposes of this article, officers and enlisted persons of the regular army assigned to the armed forces of Indiana as instructors and assistant instructors shall be considered as officers and enlisted persons of the Indiana armed forces."

Page 3, line 30, delete "computers" and insert "**computer equipment**".

Page 4, line 4, delete "hardware" and insert "**equipment**".

Page 4, line 7, delete "hardware" and insert "**equipment**".

Page 4, line 9, delete "hardware" and insert "**equipment**".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1387 as printed February 12, 2013.)

WYSS, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0.

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