

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 2047
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2019; March 21, 2019, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border
1-4 Security; April 9, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;
1-6 April 9, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	Campbell	X		
1-10	Hall	X		
1-11	Johnson	X		
1-12	Lucio	X		
1-13	Menéndez	X		
1-14	Schwertner	X		
1-15	Seliger	X		

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2047 By: Hall

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to pro bono legal services for veterans and service
1-20 members.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 434.017(c), Government Code, is amended
1-23 to read as follows:

1-24 (c) Money in the fund may only be appropriated to the Texas
1-25 Veterans Commission. Money appropriated under this subsection
1-26 shall be used to:

1-27 (1) make grants to address veterans' needs;

1-28 (2) make grants to provide pro bono legal services to
1-29 veterans, active duty members of the United States armed forces,
1-30 and members of the state military forces;

1-31 (3) administer the fund; and

1-32 (4) ~~(3)~~ analyze and investigate data received from
1-33 the federal Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)
1-34 that is administered by the Administration for Children and
1-35 Families of the United States Department of Health and Human
1-36 Services.

1-37 SECTION 2. Section 434.0171, Government Code, is amended to
1-38 read as follows:

1-39 Sec. 434.0171. STATE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND FOR
1-40 VETERANS' ASSISTANCE. For purposes of Subchapter I, Chapter 659:

1-41 (1) the Texas Veterans Commission, for the sole
1-42 purpose of managing the fund for veterans' assistance, is
1-43 considered an eligible charitable organization entitled to
1-44 participate in the state employee charitable campaign; and

1-45 (2) a state employee is entitled to authorize a
1-46 deduction for contributions to the Texas Veterans Commission for
1-47 the purposes of managing the fund for veterans' assistance as a
1-48 charitable contribution under Section 659.132, and the Texas
1-49 Veterans Commission may use the contributions for the purposes
1-50 listed in Section 434.017(c) [~~, as redesignated and amended by~~
1-51 ~~Chapter 1418 (H.B. 3107), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular~~
1-52 ~~Session, 2007]~~.

1-53 SECTION 3. Section 434.154(a), Government Code, is amended
1-54 to read as follows:

1-55 (a) The council may, by majority vote, establish the
1-56 following coordinating workgroups to focus on specific issues
1-57 affecting veterans, servicemembers, and their families:

1-58 (1) health;

1-59 (2) mental health;

1-60 (3) employment;

- 2-1 (4) higher education;
- 2-2 (5) criminal justice;
- 2-3 (6) housing;
- 2-4 (7) transportation;
- 2-5 (8) women veterans;
- 2-6 (9) pro bono legal services for veterans, including
- 2-7 opportunities and obstacles for providing those services; and
- 2-8 (10) [~~(9)~~] any other coordinating workgroup
- 2-9 considered necessary.
- 2-10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

2-11 * * * * *