

2025 HF 1445 (Bliss) Burial Eligibility Technical Change Bill

WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

HF 1445 (Bliss) aligns state statute for burial eligibility in State Veterans Cemeteries with federal references, which are specific subparagraphs of Section 2402 under 38 US Code, Persons Eligible for Internment in National Cemeteries. This Federal eligibility has always been the criteria used by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs for burial as part of grant agreements. This change to statute will align the state law with the department's administrative practice.

WHY IS THIS BILL IMPORTANT?

As a condition to receiving Federal construction grants for the establishment and expansion of the State Veteran Cemeteries, MDVA is committed to following Federal burial eligibility guidelines, which are contained within Section 2402. This technical change will remove any ambiguity in the criteria used for eligibility determination.

HOW WILL MINNESOTANS BE BETTER OFF IF WE PASS THIS BILL?

Statutory clarity and the removal of ambiguity in burial criteria will allow the department to best serve Minnesota's Veterans and the spouses and dependents of Veterans seeking to be buried in a State Veterans Cemetery.

MINNESOTA VETERANS STATE BILL TRACKER

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs offers a state bill tracker. This trackers follows bills of interest to Veterans that have been introduced in the Minnesota Legislature.

Veiw the online bill tracker at <u>mn.gov/mdva/news/legislative-updates/state-bill-tracker/</u>



JON KELLY, MPA Director of Government Affairs 651-201-8293 Jon.Kelly@state.mn.us



COLE TRACE Legislative Liaison 651-757-1540 Cole.Trace@state.mn.us

MDVA is a Veteran-friendly, equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and service provider. This document can be made available in alternate formats. Contact MDVA's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Line at 612-548-5961 or your preferred telecommunications relay service.