

Chapter 50

2026 Regular Session

Subject Veterans Affairs Policy Act

Bill H.F. 3544

Analyst Jeff Diebel

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Overview

This act reclassifies the Department of Veterans' chief-of-staff position into a deputy commissioner of administration and repeals outdated provisions related to the agency and its operations.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>Deputy commissioner; duties.</p> <p>Authorizes the commissioner of veterans affairs to appoint a deputy commissioner of administration for the agency.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Forfeiture of benefits.</p> <p>Clarifies that a veteran or former servicemember who has forfeited their rights to federal benefits under United States Code, title 38, chapter 61, is ineligible to receive state-funded veterans benefits, services, and programming under chapters 196 to 198.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Repealer.</p> <p>Repeals the following sections of law related to veterans affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">196.19 to 196.26 (“Environmental Hazards Information and Assistance Act”) were enacted in 1982 to address the issue of veterans exposed to Agent Orange and other chemical agents; and197.225 requires the department to collect and maintain data about Minnesota residents who died from service-connected causes. |