

# A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SOLDIERS' HOME IN THE STATE OF IOWA, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND THE ERECTION OF THE NECESSARY BUILDINGS.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established in the State of Iowa an institution to be known  
2 as the Soldiers' Home, for the honorable discharged indigent soldiers and sailors of the late  
3 war. Said institution shall be under the management of a board of trustees, consisting of  
4 three persons, two of whom shall constitute a quorum for business, and not more than two  
5 of whom shall belong to the same political party. Said trustees shall be elected by the Gen-  
6 eral Assembly, one of whom shall be elected for two years, one for four years and one for  
7 six years, and each General Assembly shall hereafter elect one trustee for six years. In case  
8 a vacancy on the board occurs when the Legislature is not in session, the Governor shall  
9 appoint a suitable person to fill such vacancy, who shall hold his office until the next meet-  
10 ing thereafter of the General Assembly.

SEC. 2. The purposes of this establishment are to care for, support and maintain indigent  
2 honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the late war who shall be residents of the  
3 State of Iowa.

SEC. 3. The board of trustees shall have the general supervision of said home and all its  
2 affairs, and shall adopt such rules and regulations for the management of the same as will  
3 carry into effect the provisions and purposes of this act. The trustees shall meet and organ-  
4 ize as soon as practicable after the taking effect of this act. They shall elect one of their  
5 number president and another treasurer, and they shall hold their offices as such during  
6 their respective terms as trustee. They shall elect a person, who may or may not be one of  
7 their number, secretary, and he shall hold his office during the pleasure of the board. The  
8 treasurer shall give such bond with sureties as the board shall require conditioned for the  
9 faithful accounting of all moneys that come into his hands. The secretary shall receive  
10 three dollars per day for the time he is actually employed during the sessions of the board  
11 or under their direction. Said board shall meet on the first Wednesday of November of  
12 each year, and at such other times as two of their number may direct. All of said meetings  
13 after the organization of the board shall be at the Home. The full compensation of the  
14 members of said board except as hereinafter provided shall be mileage, such as is allowed  
15 by law to the members of the General Assembly.

SEC. 4. The board of trustees shall appoint a superintendent whose duty it shall be, under  
2 the direction of the board to superintend the care of the inmates of the Home and the man-  
3 agement of its finances. He shall hold his office during the pleasure of the board.

SEC. 5. The superintendent may under the direction of the board appoint a matron and  
2 a steward, and employ such help as may be needed.

SEC. 6. There shall be received into the Home honorably discharged indigent soldiers  
2 and sailors of the late war, residents of the State of Iowa, who may make application there-  
3 for. The forms for application for admission into the Home shall be such as the trustees  
4 shall prescribe.

SEC. 7. The expense of transmission of inmates to the Home shall be paid by the county  
2 where their residence may be at the time of their admission into the Home.

SEC. 8. For the support of said institution there is hereby appropriated, out of any money  
2 in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of fifteen dollars per month for  
3 each soldier or sailor therein actually supported by the State, counting the actual time such  
4 inmate is supported and cared for by such institution. Upon presentation to the Auditor  
5 of State for each month of a sworn statement of the average number of inmates supported  
6 and cared for in the institution by the State for the preceding month, the Auditor shall  
7 draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the State in favor of the treasurer of the board of  
8 trustees for such sum. The board of trustees shall make a full report of the disbursements  
9 of the Home and its condition, financial and otherwise, to the General Assembly at each  
10 regular session thereof.

SEC. 9. The salaries for officers and compensation for help shall be paid out of the sup-  
2 port fund, except as otherwise provided by law. No more of said support fund shall be  
3 drawn or used than is necessary for the purposes of which it is appropriated.

SEC. 10. That within ten days after taking effect of this act, the Governor shall appoint  
2 five commissioners, not more than three of whom shall belong to the same political party,  
3 and no two of whom shall be from the same congressional district. The said commission-  
4 ers as soon as possible after their appointment, shall proceed to select a site for said Sold-  
5 iers' Home. In selecting such site they shall have regard to economy to the State adapta-  
6 tion of the site to the wants of the institution, elevation, sewerage, drainage, supply of  
7 water, facilities of access and the price asked for the land. Said commissioners shall also  
8 have regard to the location of other established State institutions to the end that said  
9 Home shall not be located in close proximity to other State institutions now established.  
10 The said commissioners shall report to the Governor the site selected by them, which shall  
11 be subject to his approval, and when approved by him shall become the established site for  
12 the Soldiers' Home. The said commissioners shall perform the duties imposed on them by  
13 the provisions of this act without any compensation for their services except their actual

14 necessary expenses, incident to the location of said Home, which shall be paid from the ap-  
15 propriation herein made.

SEC. 11. There is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury not other-  
2 wise appropriated the sum of fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of purchasing not less  
3 than twenty acres, and not more than one hundred and sixty acres, of land at the place  
4 where the Home shall be located, and the erection thereon of a good and substantial brick  
5 building, and furnishing the same, for indigent soldiers and sailors of the late war. The  
6 land so purchased shall be conveyed to the State of Iowa, in fee simple, free from incum-  
7 brance. The said building shall have a capacity and accommodations for not less than one  
8 hundred inmates. The trustees of said Home shall, on taking effect of this act, proceed at  
9 once and obtain plans and specifications for said building, which shall be submitted to the  
10 Governor of Iowa for his approval, and when approved by him the said trustees shall at  
11 once proceed to the erection of said building, which shall be made ready for occupation at  
12 the earliest day practicable. The trustees shall have power to employ a competent superin-  
13 tendent to superintend the erection of said building, at a compensation not to exceed five  
14 dollars per day for the time he is actually employed. During the erection of said building  
15 the trustees shall be allowed a compensation of three dollars per day for the time they shall  
16 be actually employed at the Home on business connected with the erection of said building.

SEC. 12. The money hereby appropriated for the purchase of land and erection of the  
2 building shall be drawn from the State Treasury in sums not to exceed five thousand dol-  
3 lars on the order of the trustees of said Home, and shall be paid out by the treasurer of  
4 said Home on estimates made by the superintendent and approved by the trustees. Dupli-  
5 cate vouchers shall be taken for all moneys paid out, one of which shall be filed with the  
6 Auditor of State.