

JAN 9 2006  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

HOUSE FILE 2028  
BY D. OLSON

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act specifying the time period within which the Iowa  
2 department of veterans affairs shall comply with a request for  
3 veteran status from a health care facility.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2028

1 Section 1. Section 135C.31A, Code Supplement 2005, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 135C.31A ASSESSMENT OF RESIDENTS -- PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.

4 Beginning July 1, 2003, a health care facility receiving  
5 reimbursement through the medical assistance program under  
6 chapter 249A shall assist the Iowa department of veterans  
7 affairs in identifying, upon admission of a resident, the  
8 resident's eligibility for benefits through the federal  
9 department of veterans affairs. The health care facility  
10 shall also assist the Iowa department of veterans affairs in  
11 determining such eligibility for residents residing in the  
12 facility on July 1, 2003. Upon receipt of a request for  
13 veteran status from a health care facility pursuant to this  
14 section, the Iowa department of veterans affairs shall provide  
15 a completed response to the facility within thirty days from  
16 the date of receipt. The department of inspections and  
17 appeals, in cooperation with the department of human services,  
18 shall adopt rules to administer this section, including a  
19 provision that ensures that if a resident is eligible for  
20 benefits through the federal department of veterans affairs or  
21 other third-party payor, the payor of last resort for  
22 reimbursement to the health care facility is the medical  
23 assistance program. This section shall not apply to the  
24 admission of an individual to a state mental health institute  
25 for acute psychiatric care or to the admission of an  
26 individual to the Iowa veterans home.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill provides that if the Iowa department of veterans  
29 affairs receives a request for identification or verification  
30 of veteran status from a health care facility pursuant to Code  
31 section 135C.31A, with regard to a patient residing in the  
32 facility as of July 1, 2003, or admitted to the facility after  
33 that date, the department shall provide a response within 30  
34 days from the date of receipt of the request.

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