

By Senator Bennett

21-00507-11

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to state memorials; creating s.
3 265.003, F.S.; providing legislative intent;
4 establishing the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame on the
5 Plaza Level of the Capitol Building; providing for the
6 Department of Veterans' Affairs to administer the
7 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame; authorizing the
8 department to establish a nomination and selection
9 process and an induction ceremony; providing an
10 effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Section 265.003, Florida Statutes, is created to
15 read:

16 265.003 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame.-

17 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and
18 honor military veterans who, through their works and lives
19 during or after military service, have made a significant
20 contribution to this state.

21 (2) (a) There is established the Florida Veterans' Hall of
22 Fame. The Department of Management Services shall set aside an
23 area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building, adjacent to the
24 Medal of Honor Wall, and shall consult with the Department of
25 Veterans' Affairs regarding the design and theme of the area.

26 (b) The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame shall be
27 administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs without the
28 appropriation of state funds.

29 (c) Each person who is inducted into the Florida Veterans'

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30 Hall of Fame shall have his or her name placed on a plaque
31 displayed in the designated area of the Capitol.

32 (3) (a) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall accept
33 nominations for persons to be considered for induction into the
34 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame and shall annually recommend to
35 the Governor and Cabinet persons for induction.

36 (b) In making such recommendations, the department shall
37 give precedence to veterans who were born in Florida or adopted
38 this state as their home state or base of operation and who have
39 made a significant contribution to this state in civic,
40 business, public service, or other pursuits.

41 (4) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may establish
42 selection criteria, specific time periods for the acceptance of
43 nominations, a process for selecting nominees, and a formal
44 induction ceremony to coincide with the annual commemoration of
45 Veterans' Day.

46 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.