

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to veterans' assistance grants;
 3 creating s. 295.235, F.S.; requiring the Department of
 4 Veterans' Affairs, subject to annual appropriation by
 5 the Legislature, to award grants to certain entities
 6 for the purpose of increasing public awareness of
 7 benefits and services available to veterans; providing
 8 requirements for an entity receiving an initial grant;
 9 requiring a report to the department as a condition
 10 for consideration for subsequent grants; requiring the
 11 department to adopt rules; providing an effective
 12 date.

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

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 16 Section 1. Section 295.235, Florida Statutes, is created
 17 to read:

18 295.235 Grants for promoting veteran assistance.—

19 (1) Subject to annual appropriation by the Legislature,
 20 the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall award grants to
 21 nonprofit entities or independent knowledge-based entities for
 22 the purpose of increasing public awareness of benefits and
 23 services available to veterans.

24 (2) Within 1 year after receiving an initial grant under
 25 subsection (1), an entity must host at least one public event to

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26 | disseminate information to attendees regarding benefits and
27 | services available to veterans, including, but not limited to,
28 | educational, medical, insurance, and disability benefits.

29 | (3) In order to be considered for a second or subsequent
30 | grant, an entity must submit a report to the department that
31 | includes the number of public events hosted by the entity, the
32 | number of attendees at each such event, and any other
33 | information deemed necessary by the department.

34 | (4) The department shall adopt rules to administer this
35 | section.

36 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.