

TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT
DIVISION 2: EXECUTIVE BRANCH

§ 20123. Assistance to Military and Veterans.

The Executive Officer for Military Liaison and Veteran Affairs shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the office and shall have authority over all military and veterans' affairs of the United States Armed Forces in all matters not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States. The Office of Military Liaison and Veteran Affairs shall also assist veterans returning to the commonwealth after their tours of duty in finding full-time employment. The Office of Military Liaison and Veteran Affairs shall:

(a) Formulate plans and policies, develop a comprehensive approach coordinate and/or implement programs or activities that result in an improved relationship between the Commonwealth and U.S. Armed Forces. The office shall be a single point of contact and clearinghouse on matters relative to the U.S. military and U.S. veteran affairs in the CNMI.

(b) Encourage the use of the Commonwealth, especially the Northern Islands, as a place where the U.S. military can conduct its readiness and training exercises.

(c) Act as a liaison between the U.S. Armed Forces and the Commonwealth on matters relating to the use of the CNMI's land, sea and airspace for military purposes.

(d) Act as a liaison between visiting U.S. Armed Forces and the military ship and/or units and the Commonwealth.

(e) Provide assistance to the members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are on official visit to the Commonwealth.

(f) Communicate with the various branches of the U.S. military and encourage the use of the Commonwealth as a place for rest and relaxation as well as coordinate community relations projects in the CNMI with the military.

(g) Provide general counseling and assistance to CNMI residents who aspire to join the U. S. Armed Forces in regard to military benefits, and procedures and processes of enlisting in the U.S. Armed Forces, and guidance in aligning their military goals and objectives with their career aspirations in order to learn occupations that can be of benefit to them when they are discharged and return to the Commonwealth.

(h) Maintain statistical records on all military and veteran activity within the Commonwealth and submit written reports to the Governor and the Legislature on a periodic basis relative to the status of U.S. military needs and local veterans in the CNMI.

(i) Facilitate timely communication on behalf of local veterans with the appropriate branch of the U.S. Armed Forces relative to identification card (ID) renewal or replacement, medical and retirement benefits, and other benefits deemed appropriate.

(j) Assist veterans returning to the Commonwealth after their tours of duty in finding full-time employment and shall:

(1) Assist unemployed veterans receive all available military federal and local benefits that they are entitled to or eligible for.

(2) Give reasonable clerical and administrative assistance returning veterans who are actively searching for employment in the CNMI.

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(3) Give reasonable clerical and administrative assistance returning veterans who desire to pursue their educations.

(4) Keep statistical records of the employment status of veterans in the Commonwealth, and make such records public, insofar as it may be compatible with personal privacy and confidentiality.

(k) Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Governor.

Source: PL 13-34, § 4(102).