

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 28

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDWARDS, BOBBY BADON, AND GISCLAIR AND  
SENATORS ADLEY, MARIONNEAUX, AND MURRAY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

VETERANS: Provides relative to the distribution of Honor Medals to veterans

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 36:784(A)(8)(d), (e), and (f), relative to the Veterans' Honor Medal Program;  
3 to provide relative to the application for Honor Medals; to provide for methods of  
4 distribution of Honor Medals; to require delivery of medals within a specified period  
5 of time in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 36:784(A)(8)(d), (e), and (f) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §784. Powers and duties of the secretary

9 A. In addition to the functions, powers, and duties otherwise vested in the  
10 secretary by law, he shall:

11 \* \* \*

12 (8)

13 \* \* \*

14 (d) Create an application for the distribution of the Honor Medal in which  
15 the applicant may elect to receive a medal by one of the following methods:

16 (i) Delivery by the United States Postal Service.

17 (ii) Delivery to the Department of Veterans Affairs parish service office in  
18 the parish where the veteran resides.

19 (iii) Delivery to the veteran by the governor or his designee in a ceremony  
20 conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

1                   (e) Deliver each Honor Medal pursuant to the method of delivery selected  
2                   by the veteran on the application in accordance with Subparagraph (d) of this  
3                   Paragraph.

4                   (f) Deliver each Honor Medal to the applicant within forty-five days of  
5                   receipt of the application unless the veteran elects to receive the medal in a ceremony  
6                   conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

7 \* \* \*

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

# DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Edwards

HB No. 28

**Abstract:** Requires the secretary of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to distribute Honor Medals in the manner requested by the veteran.

Present law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to establish and manage the Veterans' Honor Medal Program to recognize and honor La. veterans.

Present law provides for the design of the honor medal and requires the secretary to determine eligibility for the award of the honor medal based upon military records.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the secretary to create an application for distribution of the honor medal in which the veteran may choose a method of delivery.

Proposed law requires the secretary to deliver each medal pursuant to the method of delivery selected by the veteran on the application. Requires the secretary to deliver the medal to the applicant within 45 days unless the veteran elects to receive the medal in a ceremony conducted by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 36:784(A)(8)(d), (e), and (f))