

1 AN ACT relating to the protection of veterans' benefits.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 40 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) "Accreditation" means the authority granted by the United States  
7 Department of Veterans Affairs to representatives, agents, and attorneys to  
8 assist claimants in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims  
9 for United States Department of Veterans Affairs benefits;

10 (b) "Person" means any natural person, agent, attorney, consulting agent,  
11 consulting firm, consulting business, representative, business trust, estate,  
12 corporation, trust, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture,  
13 public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency or  
14 instrumentality, incorporated or unincorporated association, or any other  
15 legal entity;

16 (c) "Represent" means the acts associated with representing a claimant in a  
17 proceeding before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
18 pursuant to a properly executed and filed:

19 1. United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form 21-22,  
20 Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's  
21 Representative; or

22 2. United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form 21-22a,  
23 Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative; and

24 (d) "Veterans' benefits matter" means the preparation, presentation, or  
25 prosecution of any claim affecting any person who has filed or expressed an  
26 intent to file a claim for any benefit, program, service, commodity, function,  
27 status, or entitlement, which pertains to veterans, veterans' dependents or

1 survivors, or any other individual eligible for United States Department of  
2 Veterans Affairs benefits.

3 (2) A person seeking to receive compensation for advising, aiding, assisting,  
4 counseling, consulting, or representing any individual with any veterans' benefits  
5 matter shall be accredited by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

6 ➔Section 2. This Act may be cited as the Veterans' Benefits Accreditation Act.