

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 550

FINAL READING

Introduced by Avery, 28.

Read first time January 21, 2009

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Military Code; to amend sections 55-101,
2 55-120, 55-121, 55-125, 55-126, and 55-135, Reissue
3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
4 relating to Military Department personnel; to provide
5 peace officer powers and duties to National Guard
6 members; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the
7 original sections.

8 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 55-101, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 55-101 Sections 55-101 to 55-181 and section 7 of this
4 act shall be known and may be cited as the Military Code.

5 Sec. 2. Section 55-120, Reissue Revised Statutes of
6 Nebraska, is amended to read:

7 55-120 The Military Department shall consist of the
8 Adjutant General in the minimum grade of major general, lieutenant
9 colonel, one deputy adjutant general, chief of staff of the
10 Military Department, or deputy director with a minimum grade not
11 less than of colonel, one assistant adjutant general or chief of
12 staff for Army National Guard affairs and one assistant adjutant
13 general or chief of staff for Air National Guard affairs, each in
14 the grade of brigadier general, one assistant director for Nebraska
15 Emergency Management Agency affairs, and such other officers and
16 enlisted personnel as may be necessary to comply with such tables
17 of organization as are prescribed for this state by the laws
18 or regulations of the United States. in the number and grade
19 as prescribed by the United States Department of the Army and
20 Department of the Air Force personnel documents provided to the
21 National Guard or as otherwise authorized.

22 Sec. 3. Section 55-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of
23 Nebraska, is amended to read:

24 55-121 The Adjutant General shall be appointed by the
25 Governor from the active or retired commissioned officers of the

1 National Guard of this state. Such Adjutant General shall be or
2 have been a commissioned officer who has actively served in the
3 National Guard of this state for at least five years, shall have
4 attained at least the grade of lieutenant colonel, and shall be
5 able to become eligible for promotion to general officer. If a
6 retired officer is appointed, he or she shall not have been retired
7 for more than two years at the time he or she is considered
8 for appointment. He or she shall hold his or her office as
9 provided in section 55-136. He or she shall receive for his or her
10 services such salary as the Governor shall direct, payable ~~monthly,~~
11 biweekly, except that such salary shall not exceed the annual pay
12 and allowances of regular military officers of equal rank. If funds
13 made available by the federal government are in excess of the
14 amount payable as directed by the Governor, the excess shall be
15 used to reduce the amount required to be paid by the state. Due
16 to the interrelated nature of the Adjutant General's state and
17 federal duties, the Adjutant General shall not be required to take
18 paid or unpaid leave or leaves of absence to perform his or her
19 federal duties, whether or not under federal orders. The Adjutant
20 General shall continue to receive his or her salary during all
21 such periods. The Adjutant General shall only be required to take
22 leave or leaves of absence during those times when he or she is
23 absent and performing neither his or her state nor federal duties
24 as Adjutant General. This section shall not apply if the Adjutant
25 General is called to active duty of the United States under 10

1 U.S.C.

2 Sec. 4. Section 55-125, Reissue Revised Statutes of
3 Nebraska, is amended to read:

4 55-125 (1) The Adjutant General ~~may~~ shall appoint a
5 deputy adjutant general, a chief of staff of the Military
6 Department, or a deputy director. The officer shall hold the
7 minimum grade of not less than colonel as provided in section
8 55-120. No person shall be eligible for such appointment and
9 service unless he or she is an active member of the Nebraska
10 National Guard. He or she shall have had at least four years of
11 commissioned service in the Nebraska National Guard immediately
12 prior to appointment and shall have attained at least the grade of
13 lieutenant colonel and be eligible for promotion to colonel prior
14 to his or her appointment as deputy adjutant general, chief of
15 staff of the Military Department, or deputy director.

16 (2) ~~The Adjutant General shall appoint an officer with~~
17 ~~a grade of not less than major who may act as United States~~
18 ~~property and fiscal officer.~~ The chief of the National Guard Bureau
19 shall appoint a United States property and fiscal officer. The
20 officer shall hold the minimum grade of colonel. The Governor shall
21 nominate one or more officers for the position of United States
22 property and fiscal officer after consultation with the Adjutant
23 General. All nominees shall have attained at least the grade of
24 lieutenant colonel and be eligible for promotion to colonel prior
25 to his or her nomination. The United States property and fiscal

1 officer may appoint, with the approval of the Adjutant General,
 2 one or more may also ~~appoint an~~ assistant United States property
 3 and fiscal ~~officer~~ officers, each with the minimum grade of ~~not~~
 4 ~~less than~~ captain. ~~These officers~~ The United States property and
 5 fiscal officer and each assistant United States property and fiscal
 6 officer shall be appointed from among the active officers of the
 7 Nebraska National Guard and shall have been commissioned officers
 8 in the Nebraska National Guard for a period of at least four years
 9 immediately prior to appointment.

10 (3) The Adjutant General shall appoint all additional
 11 officers, clerks, and caretakers as may be required.

12 Sec. 5. Section 55-126, Reissue Revised Statutes of
 13 Nebraska, is amended to read:

14 55-126 The deputy adjutant general, chief of staff of
 15 the Military Department, or deputy director shall aid the Adjutant
 16 General by the performance of such duties as may be assigned
 17 by the Adjutant General. In case of absence or inability of the
 18 Adjutant General, the deputy adjutant general, chief of staff of
 19 the Military Department, or deputy director shall perform all or
 20 such portion of the duties of the Adjutant General as the latter
 21 may expressly delegate to him or her. If a In the case of absence
 22 of both the Adjutant General and the deputy adjutant general,
 23 chief of staff of the Military Department, or deputy director,
 24 ~~has not been appointed,~~ the Adjutant General may delegate the
 25 authority to perform the duties of the Adjutant General to any

1 active officer of the Nebraska military who shall hold at least
2 the rank of colonel. The deputy adjutant general, chief of staff
3 of the Military Department, or deputy director shall be bonded or
4 insured as required by section 11-201. The deputy adjutant general,
5 chief of staff of the Military Department, or deputy director shall
6 receive such salary as the Adjutant General shall direct, payable
7 ~~monthly.~~ biweekly. Such salary shall not exceed the annual pay and
8 allowances of regular military officers of equal rank, except that
9 when funds made available by the federal government are in excess
10 of the amount payable as directed by the Adjutant General, the
11 excess shall be used to reduce the amount required to be paid by
12 the State of Nebraska.

13 Sec. 6. Section 55-135, Reissue Revised Statutes of
14 Nebraska, is amended to read:

15 55-135 The number and grade of officers and enlisted
16 personnel shall be as prescribed by the United States Department of
17 the Army and the Department of the Air Force personnel documents
18 provided to the National Guard or as otherwise authorized, but in
19 case of war, invasion, insurrection, riot, or imminent danger, the
20 Governor may temporarily increase them to meet such emergencies.
21 All officers shall hold their commissions until separated by reason
22 of resignation, disability, or pursuant to applicable regulations
23 issued by the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air
24 Force. Vacancies among officers shall be filled by appointment,
25 subject to such regulations relating thereto as now or may

1 hereafter be promulgated by the United States Government.

2 Sec. 7. While in the active service of the state or on
3 orders under 32 U.S.C., as a member of the militia of this state or
4 another state, by direction or request of the Governor, members of
5 the National Guard are peace officers and conservators of the peace
6 with the power to keep the same, to prevent crime, to arrest any
7 person liable thereto, or to execute process of law. They may call
8 any person to their aid and, when necessary, may summon the power
9 of the state. The authority to perform peace officer duties will be
10 established within the official order to duty and may be limited by
11 the Governor, in writing, as necessitated by the mission.

12 Sec. 8. Original sections 55-101, 55-120, 55-121, 55-125,
13 55-126, and 55-135, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are
14 repealed.