WEST VIRGINIA CODE CHAPTER 10 ARTICLE 3B

WV Legislature

§10-3B-1. Legislative findings, purposes, intent, and short title.

(a) In order to preserve the memory of West Virginia servicemembers killed in action in the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations during the United States War on Terror a monument shall be constructed on the State Capitol grounds to recognize and honor those West Virginians who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in these conflicts.

(b) This article may be cited as the "West Virginia Memorial to Fallen Heroes of the Global War on Terrorism."

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§10-3B-2. Monument construction commission.

(a) A commission shall be established on or before July 1, 2023, to oversee construction of the monument. The commission shall be comprised of:

(1) The Curator of the Department of Arts, Culture, and History, who shall serve as chairperson ex officio;

(2) The Secretary of the Department of Administration;

(3) The Secretary of the Department of Veterans Assistance;

(4) A member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, with preference given to a member who is a veteran of the Armed Forces; and

(5) A member of the West Virginia Senate, who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, with preference given to a member who is a veteran of the Armed Forces.

(b) A majority of the members of the commission must be present at a meeting in order to constitute a quorum, and a majority of those members present at a meeting must vote in the affirmative in order to pass a motion. A meeting called by the chair requires at least five days' written notice of the meeting be provided to the members. Additionally, the chair shall call a meeting upon written demand of at least three members.

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§10-3B-3. Design, construction, and administration of the monument.

(a) The commission shall choose a design for the monument, to the greatest extent practicable, by December 31, 2023, that:

(1) Is in line with classical themes of veterans memorials throughout the nation while taking into account appropriate historical, religious, and philosophical themes as well as public comments submitted to the commission;

(2) Adheres to the principles described in §10-3B-1 of this code and is reflective of those West Virginians killed during the United State War on Terror;

(3) Is found to be aesthetically pleasing by the commission; and

(4) Is placed on the grounds of the West Virginia State Capitol.

(b) The commission shall solicit bids for construction of the monument and shall adhere to all state purchasing and payment processing laws and regulations in paying its vendors.

(c) The commission shall have a target date for the completion and dedication of the monument, to the greatest extent practicable, of December 31, 2024.

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§10-3B-4. Funding for the monument; authority for obtaining additional funds to complete or enhance the monument.

The Division of Labor shall allocate funds in the amount up to $750,000 toward the completion of the monument from any available funds that are managed or utilized by the Division of Labor. The commission shall have the authority to obtain funding through grants, charitable donations, or other appropriate means for the completion or enhancement of the monument.

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§10-3B-5. Memorial inscription or plaque.

There shall be inscribed or engraved upon the monument, or otherwise permanently affixed by means of a plaque the following text:

(1) The names of all West Virginia servicemembers killed in action during the United States War on Terror as described in §10-3B-1 of this code; and

(2) Any other text the commission deems appropriate in accordance with §10-3B-3(a)(1) of this code.

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§10-3B-6. Conclusion of the commission's work.

(a) The commission shall be disbanded at such time that the monument has been completed and has been appropriately dedicated in accordance with the provisions of this article; *Provided, however*, If the monument is not completed or dedicated by December 31, 2024, the commission shall be continued until such time that the monument is completed and dedicated.

(b) Upon the commission's termination, ownership of the monument shall be transferred to the Department of Arts, Culture, and History, and any funds remaining in the commission's control at that time shall be granted to the Department of Arts, Culture, and History for the monument's enhancement and perpetual maintenance.

WV Legislature