

## 2003 SENATE BILL 205

June 23, 2003 – Introduced by Senators ZIEN, BROWN, S. FITZGERALD, LASSA, STEPP, SCHULTZ and ROESSLER, cosponsored by Representatives SUDER, MUSSER, PETTIS, WEBER, HINES, OWENS, TURNER, LADWIG, KREIBICH and LOEFFELHOLZ. Referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform.

1     **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 45.385; and *to create* 20.485 (1) (q), 25.17 (1)  
 2           (xq), 25.38 and 45.385 (2) of the statutes; **relating to:** veterans facilities and  
 3           programs in northwestern Wisconsin.

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### ***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under current law, the Department of Veterans Affairs (department) is authorized to operate residential, treatment, and nursing care facilities in southeastern Wisconsin, on land formerly occupied by the southern center for the developmentally disabled located in Union Grove. The department has the authority to employ necessary personnel and to purchase or condemn lands necessary to construct and operate these facilities. Currently, the department does operate three community-based residential facilities on the property.

This bill gives the department similar authority to develop, construct or renovate, and operate residential, treatment, and nursing care facilities in northwestern Wisconsin, on land located at the Northern Wisconsin Center for the Developmentally Disabled in Chippewa Falls. The bill also creates a trust fund to pay for the development of these facilities, funded from the net proceeds of the sale of surplus land at the northern center.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***



**SENATE BILL 205**

1 Wisconsin Veterans Retirement Center. The department may employ any personnel  
2 that are necessary for the proper management of the Southern Wisconsin Veterans  
3 Retirement Center. The department may acquire by gift, purchase, or condemnation  
4 lands necessary for the purposes of the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Retirement  
5 Center. Title to any properties acquired under this section shall be taken in the name  
6 of this state. Every deed of conveyance shall be immediately recorded in the office  
7 of the proper register of deeds and filed with the secretary of state.

8 **SECTION 6.** 45.385 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

9 45.385 (2) VETERANS NORTHWESTERN FACILITIES. Subject to authorization under  
10 ss. 13.48 (10) and 20.924 (1), the department may develop, construct or renovate, and  
11 operate residential, treatment, and nursing care facilities and programs for veterans  
12 in northwestern Wisconsin, on the property of the Northern Wisconsin Center for the  
13 Developmentally Disabled in Chippewa Falls. The programs and facilities may  
14 include an assisted living facility, a skilled nursing facility, a medical clinic, an adult  
15 day health care center, an activities center, and a veterans' assistance program. The  
16 department may employ any personnel that are necessary for the proper  
17 management of these facilities and programs.

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(END)