

No. 195, A.]

[Published April 15, 1949.

CHAPTER 50.

AN ACT to amend 20.15 (11), 35.305 and 343.251; and to create 188.19 and 188.20 of the statutes, relating to the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS), its corporate powers and insignia, making an appropriation and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. 20.15 (11) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.15 (11) AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II (AMVETS) To the Wisconsin department of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) annually, beginning July 1, 1947, \$1,000 for necessary expenses of its annual encampment, claims therefor to be made by its state commander to the department of veterans' affairs.

SECTION 2. 35.305 of the statutes is amended to read:

35.305 Upon receiving the necessary printer's copy, the director of purchases shall have printed and bound in suitable form, by the state printer, and delivered to the proper officer of each organization, all required copies of department orders, reports of officers, other historical matter and the annual proceedings of the following Wisconsin organizations of service men: United Spanish War Veterans and their auxiliary, the Wisconsin Department of the American Legion and its auxiliary, the Wisconsin Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its auxiliary, the Wisconsin Department of the Disabled American Veterans, * * * the Wisconsin Department of the Army and Navy Union, U. S. A. and its auxiliary and the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) and its auxiliary. Not to exceed \$200 shall be expended annually for each of the * * * 6 veterans' organizations named, together with their auxiliaries.

SECTION 3. 188.19 of the statutes is created to read:

188.19 CORPORATE POWERS OF AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II (AMVETS).

(1) Any post, county, district council, and department of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) organized in this state pursuant to the acts of congress passed July 23, 1947 and the acts amendatory thereto, and any unit, county or district council, and department of the auxiliary of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) organized in this state, shall have full corporate power to transact business in this state and to take over the assets and liabilities of the existing posts, units, county or district councils, or departments upon filing with the secretary of state a statement of its intent so to do, and a full and complete list of its duly elected officers, and shall by so doing become a body corporate. Each such post, unit, county or district council, or department, shall during each succeeding year of its existence file with the secretary of state on or before January 1 of each year thereafter, a like list of its duly elected officers. No filing fee shall be charged by the secretary of state.

(2) All acts done by any post, unit, county or district council, or department so incorporated, or its constituted authorities, shall be considered acts of said post, unit, county or district council, or department, as a body corporate, and no personal liability shall be attached to any member therefor.

(3) Section 180.02 (2) shall not apply to corporations organized under section 188.19. In the execution of any conveyance or encumbrance by such corporations, the post, county or district, or department commander, or the post, county or district council, or department adjutant or like or similar officers, shall have the powers and duties granted to presidents and secretaries respectively under section 235.19 (2).

SECTION 4. 188.20 of the statutes is created to read:

188.20 CHANGING NAMES AND DISSOLVING UNITS. Any post, county, district council, department or other unit of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) or of the auxiliary of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) which has become a body corporate under the provisions of section 188.19 may change its name or dissolve by the adoption of a written resolution to that effect by a vote of a majority of its members present at a meeting called for that purpose and by filing the same as herein provided. Such resolution, with a certificate thereto affixed, signed by the commander and adjutant, or like or similar officers, stating the fact, including the date of the adoption of such resolution, the number of members present at such meeting, and the number of members who voted for the adoption of the resolution, shall be forwarded to and filed with the secretary of state, and thereupon the name of such corporation shall be changed or the corporation shall cease to exist, as the case may be. Or any corpora-

tion formed under section 188.19 may be dissolved by the filing of a certificate in the office of the secretary of state reciting that such corporation has ceased to be a unit of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) auxiliary. Such certificate shall be signed by the national commander and national adjutant of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) or by the state commander and state adjutant of the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS) department of Wisconsin. In the case of units of the auxiliary the certificates shall be signed by the national president and national secretary or the department president and department secretary. Corporations dissolved under this section shall continue to have corporate existence for the time and purposes specified in section 181.02. No fee shall be charged by the secretary of state for such filing.

SECTION 5. 343.251 of the statutes is amended to read:

343.251 Any person who shall wilfully wear the insignia, rosette, or badge or any imitation thereof, of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, * * * the Military Order of Foreign Wars, * * * the American Legion, * * * the Thirty-second Division Veteran Association, *the American Veterans of World War II (AMVETS)*, or of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States, Knights of Columbus, Odd Fellows, Free Masons, Knights of Pythias, or of any other society, order, or organization, operating under the lodge system, of 10 years' standing in the state of Wisconsin, or of any duly incorporated fraternal, social, or service organization, or shall wilfully use the same to obtain aid or assistance thereby within this state, or shall wilfully use the name of such society, order or organization, the titles of its officers, or its insignia, unless he shall be entitled to use or wear the same under the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations thereof, shall be * * * *imprisoned* * * * not more than 30 days or * * * *fined* not exceeding \$20, or * * * both * * *.

Approved April 13, 1949.
