

JAMES W. EDMING

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release March 22, 2024 Contact: Rep. James Edming (608) 237-9187

Edming Bill Eliminating Red Tape for County Veteran Service Offices Becomes Law

MADISON – Today, <u>Senate Bill (SB) 416</u> authored by Representative James Edming (R-Glen Flora) and Senator Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point) was signed into law by Governor Evers as Act 203. This bipartisan legislation eliminates unnecessary red tape from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs' (WDVA) grant program for county veteran service offices.

"County veteran service offices are one of the best resources for veterans to learn about and receive assistance in accessing the benefits they are entitled to," said Rep. Edming. "Anything we can do to ease the administrative burden on these offices will allow them to focus more on their primary mission, assisting our state's veterans."

Before this law change, for a county to be eligible for the grant from WDVA, the head of the county veteran service office, the county veteran service officer (CVSO), needed to pass a civil service exam. SB 416 eliminates this requirement.

"The civil service exam covered very little of the job duties that CVSOs actually perform and was just red tape," said Rep. Edming. "This common-sense law change will make it easier for county veteran service offices to obtain funding that helps them fulfill their important mission."

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The 87th Assembly District includes all or portions of Marathon, Rusk, Sawyer, and Taylor Counties.