



SB67 DOES NOT GIVE ALABAMA VETERANS A “LOUDER VOICE”!

The State Board of Veterans Affairs (SBVA) consists of 16 members who are appointed by the Governor from nominees represented by nine veteran service organizations, plus the Governor who chairs the board.

SBVA UNDER CURRENT LAW



SBVA UNDER SB67

Appoints the Commissioner.



Appointing authority removed.

Has rule-making authority (so strong it has the “force and effect of law”).



Rule-making authority stripped and given to either the “Commissioner” (now a “political appointment”) or the ‘department’.

SBVA reduced to “advisory” status.

Commissioner is directly accountable to the SBVA. It’s written throughout the law that the Commissioner must have “permission” or “approval of” the board for most actions.



SBVA approval or permission no longer required. Commissioner (a political appointee) may act alone.

SBVA has oversight of the four ADVA funds.



Removes oversight of three of the four funds.

The main talking point for SB67 is that the Commissioner will now be part of the “Governor’s Cabinet”. Yet, for 80 years the Department of Veterans Affairs overseen by the SBVA has been an “apolitical” agency. Currently, as the head of the SBVA, the Governor has direct access to information and issues concerning Alabama veterans.

Making the Commissioner a “cabinet level position” is a ruse. SB67 is a blatant political consolidation of power.

ALABAMA VETERANS DESERVE BETTER!

