

ASSEMBLY, No. 2129

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Karabinchak

SYNOPSIS

Permits local government unit to grant Length of Service Award Program points to certain activated military members.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the Emergency Services Volunteer Length of
2 Service Award Program and supplementing P.L.1997, c.388
3 (C.40A:14-183 et seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 1. a. A local government unit may, by ordinance or resolution,
9 as appropriate, credit a year of active emergency service or a
10 portion of a year for each year or portion of a year during which an
11 active volunteer member is called to State or federal active duty at a
12 location that makes the member unavailable for active emergency
13 service after September 11, 2001 as a member of the reserve
14 component of the armed forces of the United States or the New
15 Jersey National Guard in time of war or time of emergency, or for
16 or during any period of training for this active duty; provided,
17 however, that upon completion of active armed forces duty, or
18 training for active duty, the person returns to active volunteer status
19 for a period of time equal to that time served in the armed forces or
20 National Guard, unless the person is unable to resume active
21 volunteer status due to death or a serious service-connected
22 disability, as determined by the United States Department of
23 Veterans Affairs or its successor.

24 b. In computing credit for length of service under subsection a.
25 of this section, an active volunteer shall receive pro rata credit for
26 points granted during the prior calendar year in lieu of points that
27 may have been granted for activities designated by the sponsoring
28 agency provided under section 6 of P.L.1997, c.388 (C.40A:14-
29 188).
30

31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
32
33

34 STATEMENT
35

36 This bill authorizes a municipal or county governing body to grant
37 Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) points to certain
38 volunteer members of fire departments or first aid squads.

39 Under current law, an active volunteer member of an emergency
40 service organization who is deployed to active duty to serve in either
41 the reserve component of the armed forces of the United States or the
42 New Jersey National Guard is prohibited from earning LOSAP points
43 for the period they are deployed.

44 Under this bill, a local governing body may grant LOSAP points to
45 a volunteer who is on State or federal active duty or active duty for
46 training if the person returns to active volunteer status for a period
47 of time equivalent to the time served, unless the person is unable to
48 resume active volunteer status due to death or serious injury.

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- 1 The points credited would be based on the activated volunteer's
- 2 LOSAP points granted during the calendar year prior to activation.
- 3 According to the sponsor, these volunteers should not be penalized
- 4 because of their active military participation.