

ASSEMBLY, No. 2698

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle and Speight

SYNOPSIS

Creates civil service preference for peacetime veterans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 4/9/2020)

1 **AN ACT** creating a civil service veterans preference for peacetime
2 veterans and supplementing chapter 5 of Title 11A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Any individual who does not meet the definition of
9 veteran pursuant to N.J.S.11A:5-1, but who has served in the Armed
10 Forces of the United States, a Reserve component thereof, or the
11 National Guard of this State, as defined in N.J.S.38A:1-1, and has
12 been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable from that
13 service, and who receives a passing score on an open competitive
14 examination, shall be entitled to five additional points above the
15 individual's earned score.

16 b. Veterans qualified under subsection a. of this section, shall
17 be placed at the top of a civil service list immediately after veterans
18 who meet the definition of veteran under N.J.S.11A:5-1.

19 c. At no time shall this section supersede the veterans
20 preference provided in N.J.S.11A:5-4 and N.J.S.11A:5-5.

21 d. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and
22 Veterans Affairs shall be responsible for determining whether any
23 individual seeking to be considered a veteran under this section, for
24 the purpose of receiving civil service preference, meets the criteria
25 set forth herein and for adjudicating an appeal from any person
26 disputing this determination. The determination of the Adjutant
27 General shall apply only prospectively from the date of initial
28 determination or date of determination from an appeal, as
29 appropriate, and shall be binding upon the commission.

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31 2. This act shall take effect three months next following the
32 date of enactment or three months after approval of a relevant
33 amendment to the New Jersey Constitution, whichever occurs later.
34 This act shall apply to persons taking examinations after the
35 effective date, except the Civil Service Commission and the
36 Department of Military and Veterans affairs may take any
37 anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be necessary
38 for the implementation of this act. This act shall only apply if an
39 amendment to the State constitution is approved by the voters to
40 permit such veterans to receive the benefit.

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STATEMENT

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45 This bill would expand eligibility for veterans civil service hiring
46 preference so that individuals who are veterans, but are not eligible for
47 preference in the State civil service as wartime veterans, would receive
48 five additional points above the individual's earned score on a State

1 civil service examination and be listed in order of their scores
2 immediately after veterans who are currently eligible for preference in
3 the State civil service.

4 Under this substitute, a veteran will mean any individual who has
5 served in the Armed Forces of the United States, a Reserve component
6 thereof, or the National Guard of this State, and has been discharged
7 under conditions other than dishonorable from that service.

8 The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans
9 Affairs will be responsible for determining whether any individual
10 seeking to be considered a veteran under this substitute meets the
11 criteria.

12 These changes will not supersede current law concerning civil
13 service preference provided to disabled veterans and wartime veterans.

14 This new benefit for veterans who did not serve in a time of war
15 would apply only if an amendment to the State constitution is
16 approved by the voters to permit such veterans to receive the benefit.