

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1871

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Testa

SYNOPSIS

Upgrades certain crimes of misrepresenting oneself as member or veteran of US Armed Forces or organized militia.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on January 6, 2022, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/16/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning certain crimes and amending N.J.S.38A:14-5.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.38A:14-5 is amended to read as follows:

7 38A:14-5. Any person who knowingly, with intent to
8 impersonate and with intent to deceive, misrepresents oneself as a
9 member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces or organized
10 militia by wearing the uniform or any medal or insignia authorized
11 for use by the members or veterans of the United States Armed
12 Forces or the organized militia, by Federal and State laws and
13 regulations, shall be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

14 Any person who knowingly, with intent to impersonate and with
15 intent to deceive for the purpose of obtaining money, property, or
16 other tangible benefit, misrepresents oneself as a member or veteran
17 of the United States Armed Forces or organized militia by wearing
18 the uniform or any medal or insignia authorized for use by the
19 members or veterans of the United States Armed Forces or the
20 organized militia, by Federal and State laws and regulations, shall
21 be guilty of a crime of the third degree, subject to a minimum fine
22 of \$1,000, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible
23 benefit in an amount less than \$75,000; or a crime of the second
24 degree, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible
25 benefit in the amount of \$75,000 or more.

26 Any person who knowingly, with intent to deceive for the
27 purpose of obtaining money, property, or other tangible benefit,
28 holds oneself out to be a recipient of any decoration or medal
29 created by Federal and State laws and regulations to honor the
30 members or veterans of the United States Armed Forces or the
31 organized militia shall be guilty of a crime of the third degree,
32 subject to a minimum fine of \$1,000, if the actor obtains money,
33 property or other tangible benefit in the amount less than \$75,000;
34 or a crime of the second degree, if the actor obtains money,
35 property or other tangible benefit in the amount of \$75,000 or more.

36 Any monies collected pursuant to this section shall be forwarded
37 to the State Treasurer, and shall ¹**【annually be appropriated to】** be
38 deposited into¹ the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund, as
39 established pursuant to P.L.2015, c.117 (C.18A:71B-98 et seq.), in
40 the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority. ¹**【Until such**
41 **time as the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund is established,**
42 **any monies collected pursuant to this section shall be forwarded to**
43 **the State Treasurer, and deposited into the "NJ National Guard State**

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets 【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹**Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 6, 2022.**

1 Family Readiness Council Fund," as established, pursuant to section
2 1 of P.L.2011, c.117 (C.54A:9-25.29).**1**
3 (cf: P.L.2015, c.118, s.1)

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.