

SENATE, No. 3833

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 3, 2019

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Andrzejczak, A.R.Bucco, Brown and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Establishes uniform standard for acceptable proof of veteran status for veteran's ID cards and various State and local programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning acceptable proof of veteran status for State and
2 local programs and amending various parts of the statutory law.

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

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2007, c.275 (C.13:1L-12.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. (1) The department shall not charge an admission fee for
10 entrance into a State park or forest by any veteran during an event
11 held by a veterans' organization. In addition, the department shall
12 not charge a facilities fee of any kind to any veterans' organization
13 using a State park or forest for an event.

14 (2) The department shall not charge an admission fee or
15 facilities fee of any kind for entrance into a State park or forest by a
16 person holding a driver's license or identification card with a Gold
17 Star Family designation issued pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2013,
18 c.165 (C.39:3-10f6) or section 2 of P.L.1980, c.47 (C.39:3-29.3),
19 respectively.

20 b. As used in this section:

21 "Veteran" means any resident of the State now or hereafter who
22 has been **【honorably】** discharged honorably or **【released】** under
23 general honorable **【circumstances from active service】** conditions
24 in any branch of the **【armed forces】** Armed Forces of the United
25 States, or a Reserve component thereof, or the National Guard of
26 this State or another state as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109
27 (C.38A:1-1), or any honorably discharged member of the American
28 Merchant Marine who served during World War II and is declared
29 by the United States Department of Defense to be eligible for
30 federal veterans' benefits; and

31 "Veterans' organization" means the American Legion, Veterans
32 of Foreign Wars, or other veterans' organizations chartered under
33 federal law, or any service foundation of such an organization
34 recognized in its bylaws.

35 (cf. P.L.2017, c.173, s.3)

36

37 2. Section 4 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-4) is amended to read
38 as follows:

39 4. a. The Workforce Development Partnership Program is
40 hereby established in the Department of Labor and Workforce
41 Development and shall be administered by the Commissioner of
42 Labor and Workforce Development. The purpose of the program is
43 to provide qualified displaced, disadvantaged and employed
44 workers with the employment and training services most likely to
45 enable the individual to obtain employment providing self-
46 sufficiency for the individual and also to provide the greatest

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.

1 opportunity for long-range career advancement with high levels of
2 productivity and earning power. To implement that purpose, the
3 program shall provide those services by means of training grants or
4 customized training services in coordination with funding for the
5 services from federal or other sources. The commissioner is
6 authorized to expend moneys from the Workforce Development
7 Partnership Fund to provide the training grants or customized
8 training services and provide for each of the following:

9 (1) The cost of counseling required pursuant to section 7 of
10 P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-7), to the extent that adequate funding for
11 counseling is not available from federal or other sources;

12 (2) Reasonable administrative costs, which shall not exceed
13 **【10%】** 10 percent of the revenues collected pursuant to section 2 of
14 P.L.1992, c.44 (C.34:15D-13) during any fiscal year ending before
15 July 1, 2001, except for additional start-up administrative costs
16 approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget
17 during the first year of the program's operation;

18 (3) Reasonable costs, which shall not exceed **【0.5%】** 0.5
19 percent of the revenues collected pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1992,
20 c.44 (C.34:15D-13) during any fiscal year ending before July 1,
21 2001, as required by the State Employment and Training
22 Commission to design criteria and conduct an annual evaluation of
23 the program; and

24 (4) The cost of reimbursement to individuals for excess
25 contributions pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1992, c.44 (C.34:15D-
26 17).

27 b. Not more than **【10%】** 10 percent of the moneys received by
28 any service provider pursuant to this act shall be expended on
29 anything other than direct costs to the provider of providing the
30 employment and training services, which direct costs shall not
31 include any administrative or overhead expense of the provider.

32 c. Training and employment services or other workforce
33 investment services shall be provided to a worker who receives
34 counseling pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-7)
35 only if the counselor who evaluates the worker pursuant to that
36 section determines that the worker can reasonably be expected to
37 successfully complete the training and instruction identified in the
38 Employability Development Plan developed pursuant to that section
39 for the worker.

40 d. All occupational training provided under this act:

41 (1) Shall be training which is likely to substantially enhance the
42 individual's marketable skills and earning power; and

43 (2) Shall be training for a labor demand occupation, except for:

44 (a) Customized training provided to the present employees of a
45 business which the commissioner deems to be in need of the
46 training to prevent job loss caused by obsolete skills, technological
47 change or national or global competition; or

48 (b) Customized training provided to employees at a facility
49 which is being relocated from another state into New Jersey; or

1 (c) Entrepreneurial training and technical assistance supported
2 by training grants provided pursuant to subsection b. of section 6 of
3 P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-6).

4 e. During any fiscal year ending before July 1, 2001, not less
5 than ~~【25%】~~ 25 percent of the total revenues dedicated to the
6 program during any one fiscal year shall be reserved to provide
7 employment and training services for qualified displaced workers;
8 not less than six percent of the total revenues dedicated to the
9 program during any one fiscal year shall be reserved to provide
10 employment and training services for qualified disadvantaged
11 workers; not less than ~~【45%】~~ 45 percent of the total revenues
12 dedicated to the program during any one fiscal year shall be
13 reserved for and appropriated to the Office of Customized Training;
14 not less than ~~【3%】~~ three percent of the total revenues dedicated to
15 the program during any one fiscal year shall be reserved for
16 occupational safety and health training; and ~~【5%】~~ five percent of
17 the total revenues dedicated to the program during any one fiscal
18 year shall be reserved for and appropriated to the Youth Transitions
19 to Work Partnership created pursuant to P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-
20 1 et seq.).

21 f. Funds available under the program shall not be used for
22 activities which induce, encourage or assist: any displacement of
23 currently employed workers by trainees, including partial
24 displacement by means such as reduced hours of currently
25 employed workers; any replacement of laid off workers by trainees;
26 or any relocation of operations resulting in a loss of employment at
27 a previous workplace located in the State.

28 g. On-the-job training shall not be funded by the program for
29 any employment found by the commissioner to be of a level of skill
30 and complexity too low to merit training. The duration of on-the-
31 job training funded by the program for any worker shall not exceed
32 the duration indicated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics'
33 Occupational Information Network, or "O*NET," for the
34 occupation for which the training is provided and shall in no case
35 exceed 26 weeks. The department shall set the duration of on-the-
36 job training for a worker for less than the indicated maximum, when
37 training for the maximum duration is not warranted because of the
38 level of the individual's previous training, education or work
39 experience. On-the-job training shall not be funded by the program
40 unless it is accompanied, concurrently or otherwise, by whatever
41 amount of classroom-based or equivalent occupational training,
42 remedial instruction or both, is deemed appropriate for the worker
43 by the commissioner. On-the-job training shall not be funded by
44 the program unless the trainee is provided benefits, pay and
45 working conditions at a level and extent not less than the benefits
46 and working conditions of other trainees or employees of the
47 trainee's employer with comparable skills, responsibilities,
48 experience and seniority.

1 h. Employment and training services funded by the program
2 shall not replace, supplant, compete with or duplicate in any way
3 approved apprenticeship programs.

4 i. No activities funded by the program shall impair existing
5 contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements, except
6 that activities which would be inconsistent with the terms of a
7 collective bargaining agreement may be undertaken with the written
8 concurrence of the collective bargaining unit and employer who are
9 parties to the agreement.

10 j. All staff who are hired and supported by moneys from the
11 Workforce Development Partnership Fund, including any of those
12 staff located at any One Stop Career Center, but not including any
13 staff of a service provider providing employment and training
14 services supported by a customized training grant pursuant to
15 section 5 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-5) or an individual training
16 grant pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-6), shall be
17 hired and employed by the State pursuant to Title 11A, Civil
18 Service, of the New Jersey Statutes, be hired and employed by a
19 political subdivision of the State, or be qualified staff hired and
20 employed by a non-profit organization which began functioning as
21 the One Stop Career Center operator with the written consent of the
22 chief elected official and the commissioner prior to the effective
23 date of P.L.2004, c.39 (C.34:1A-1.2 et al.), or be qualified staff
24 hired and employed by an approved community-based or faith-
25 based organization to provide services at the level of staffing
26 provided in an agreement entered into by the organization before
27 the effective date of P.L.2004, c.39 (C.34:1A-1.2 et al.).

28 k. Employers in the State who apply for grants for training and
29 employment services or other workforce investment services for
30 their employees in the State shall be evaluated by the commissioner
31 and preference shall be given to those employers who:

32 (1) provide equipment, supplies, or services to military bases
33 and installations pursuant to a procurement or military contract with
34 the United States Department of Defense, the United States
35 Department of Veterans Affairs, or any branch of the United States
36 Armed Forces;

37 (2) are engaged in one or more of the following fields or
38 industries: science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or
39 advanced manufacturing within these fields or industries; or

40 (3) intend to train veterans.

41 Pursuant to this paragraph, "veteran" means **[a person]** any
42 resident of the State now or hereafter who has served in **[the Army,**
43 **Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard]** any branch of the Armed
44 Forces of the United States or a Reserve component thereof or the
45 National Guard of this State or another state as defined in section 1
46 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and has been **[honorably]**
47 discharged honorably or **[released]** under general honorable
48 conditions **[other than dishonorable]** from that service.

49 (cf. P.L.2017, c.22, s.1)

1 3. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-5) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 5. a. There is hereby established, as part of the Workforce
4 Development Partnership Program, the Office of Customized
5 Training. Moneys allocated to the office from the fund shall be used
6 to provide employment and training services to eligible applicants
7 approved by the commissioner.

8 b. An applicant shall be eligible for customized training
9 services if it is one of the following:

10 (1) An individual employer that seeks the customized training
11 services to create, upgrade or retain jobs in a labor demand
12 occupation;

13 (2) An individual employer that seeks customized training
14 services to upgrade or retain jobs in an occupation which is not a
15 labor demand occupation, if the commissioner determines that the
16 services are necessary to prevent the likely loss of the jobs or that
17 the services are being provided to employees at a facility which is
18 being relocated from another state into New Jersey;

19 (3) An employer organization, labor organization or community-
20 based or faith-based organization seeking the customized training
21 services to provide training in labor demand occupations in a
22 particular industry;

23 (4) A consortium made up of one or more educational
24 institutions and one or more eligible individual employers or labor,
25 employer or community-based or faith-based organizations that
26 seeks the customized training services to provide training in labor
27 demand occupations in a particular industry;

28 (5) An individual employer who provides equipment, supplies,
29 or services to military bases and installations pursuant to a
30 procurement or military contract with the United States Department
31 of Defense, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or
32 any branch of the United States Armed Forces;

33 (6) An individual employer who is engaged in one or more of
34 the following fields or industries: science, technology, engineering,
35 mathematics, or advanced manufacturing within these fields or
36 industries; or

37 (7) An individual employer who intends to train veterans. For
38 the purposes of this subparagraph, a "veteran" is **【a person】** any
39 resident of the State now or hereafter who has served in **【the Army,**
40 **Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard】** any branch of the Armed
41 Forces of the United States or a Reserve component thereof or the
42 National Guard of this State or another state as defined in section 1
43 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and has been **【honorably】**
44 discharged honorably or **【released】** under general honorable
45 conditions **【other than dishonorable】** from that service.

46 c. Each applicant seeking funding for customized training
47 services shall submit an application to the commissioner in a form
48 and manner prescribed in regulations adopted by the commissioner.

- 1 The application shall be accompanied by a business plan of each
2 employer which will receive customized training services if the
3 application is approved. The business plan shall include:
- 4 (1) A justification of the need for the services and funding from
5 the office, including information sufficient to demonstrate to the
6 satisfaction of the commissioner that the applicant will provide
7 significantly less of the services if the requested funding is not
8 provided by the office;
- 9 (2) A comprehensive long-term human resource development
10 plan which:
- 11 (a) Extends significantly beyond the period of time in which the
12 services are funded by the office;
- 13 (b) Significantly enhances the productivity and competitiveness
14 of the employer operations located in the State and the employment
15 security of workers employed by the employer in the State; and
- 16 (c) States the number of current or newly-hired workers who
17 will be trained under the grant and the pay levels of jobs which will
18 be created or retained for those workers as a result of the funding
19 and the plan.
- 20 (3) Evidence, if the training sought is for an occupation which is
21 not a labor demand occupation, that the customized training
22 services are needed to prevent job loss caused by obsolete skills,
23 technological change or national or global competition or that the
24 services are being provided to employees at a facility which is
25 being relocated from another state into New Jersey;
- 26 (4) Information demonstrating that most of the individuals
27 receiving the services will be trained primarily for work in the
28 direct production of goods or services;
- 29 (5) A commitment to provide the information needed by the
30 commissioner to evaluate the success of the funding and the plan in
31 creating and retaining jobs, to assure compliance with the
32 provisions of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.); and
- 33 (6) Any other information or commitments which the
34 commissioner deems appropriate to assure compliance with the
35 provisions of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.).
- 36 The commissioner may provide whatever assistance he deems
37 appropriate in the preparation of the application and business plan,
38 which may include labor market information, projections of
39 occupational demand and information and advice on alternative
40 training and instruction strategies.
- 41 d. Each employer that receives a grant for customized training
42 services shall contribute a minimum of **【50%】** 50 percent of the
43 total cost of the customized training services, except that the
44 commissioner shall set a higher or lower minimum contribution by
45 an employer, if warranted by the size and economic resources of the
46 employer or other factors deemed appropriate by the commissioner,
47 and except that, for individuals hired by the employer through a
48 One Stop Career Center who receive classroom training under the
49 grant and were recipients of benefits under the Work First New

1 Jersey program at any time during the 12 months preceding the date
2 of employment, the employer shall be eligible for reimbursement of
3 up to **【50%】** 50 percent of wages paid to the individual during the
4 classroom training in addition to reimbursement for tuition and
5 other direct costs of the training as determined to be appropriate by
6 the office, and provided, further, that no individual shall be hired or
7 placed in a manner which results in a violation of the restrictions of
8 subsection f. of section 4 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-4) against
9 displacing current employees.

10 e. Each employer receiving a grant for customized training
11 services shall hire or retain in permanent employment each worker
12 who successfully completes the training and instruction provided
13 under the customized training. The employer shall be entitled to
14 select the qualified employed, disadvantaged or displaced workers
15 who will participate in the customized training, except that if any
16 collective bargaining unit represents a qualified employed worker,
17 the selection shall be conducted in a manner acceptable to both the
18 employer and the collective bargaining unit. The commissioner
19 shall provide for the withholding, for a time period he deems
20 appropriate, of whatever portion he deems appropriate of program
21 funding as a final payment for customized training services,
22 contingent upon the hiring and retention of a program completer as
23 required pursuant to this section. If an employer receiving a grant
24 for customized training services pursuant to this section relocates or
25 outsources any or all of the jobs out of the State for which the
26 customized training services were provided under the grant within
27 three years following the end date of the customized contract, the
28 employer shall, if all of the jobs are relocated or outsourced, return
29 all of the moneys provided to the employer by the State for
30 customized training services, or, if only a portion of the jobs are
31 relocated or outsourced, return a part of the moneys, deemed by the
32 commissioner to be appropriate and proportional to the portion of
33 the jobs relocated or outsourced, and the returned amount shall be
34 deposited into the Workforce Development Partnership Fund.

35 f. The customized training services provided to an approved
36 applicant may include any combination of employment and training
37 services or any single employment and training service approved by
38 the commissioner, including remedial instruction provided to
39 upgrade workplace literacy. Each service may be provided by a
40 separate approved service provider. No training or employment
41 service shall be funded through a customized training grant, unless
42 the service is provided directly by an employer or is provided by an
43 approved service provider. An employer who directly provides
44 training and employment services to his own employees shall not be
45 regarded as a service provider and shall not be subject to any
46 requirement to obtain approval by the State as a service provider,
47 including the requirements of section 13 of P.L.2005, c.354
48 (C.34:15C-10.1) to be approved as a qualifying school or the

1 requirements of section 14 of P.L.2005, c.354 (C.34:15C-10.2) to
2 be included on the State Eligible Training Provider List.

3 g. Customized training services shall include any remedial
4 instruction determined necessary pursuant to section 7 of this act.
5 Applications for customized training services shall include
6 estimates of the total need for remedial instruction determined in a
7 manner deemed appropriate by the commissioner.

8 h. Any business seeking customized training services shall, in
9 the manner prescribed by the commissioner, participate in the
10 development of a plan to provide the services. Any business
11 seeking customized training services for workers represented by a
12 collective bargaining unit shall notify the collective bargaining unit
13 and permit it to participate in developing the plan. No customized
14 training services shall be provided to a business employing workers
15 represented by a collective bargaining unit without the written
16 consent of both the business and the collective bargaining unit.

17 i. Any business receiving customized training services shall be
18 responsible for providing workers' compensation coverage for any
19 worker participating in the customized training.

20 j. The commissioner shall establish an annual goal that **[15%]**
21 15 percent or more of the jobs to be created or retained in
22 connection with training supported by grants from the office shall
23 be jobs provided to individuals who were recipients of benefits
24 under the Work First New Jersey program at any time during the 12
25 months prior to being placed in the jobs. The means to attain the
26 goal shall include coordinated efforts between the office and One
27 Stop Career Centers to prepare recipients for employment and make
28 them available to employers, but shall not include any policy which
29 may penalize employers or discourage employers from using
30 customized training service provided by the office.

31 (cf. P.L.2017, c.22, s.2)

32

33 4. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.165 (C.39:3-10f6) is amended to
34 read as follows:

35 1. a. (1) In addition to the requirements for the form and
36 content of a motor vehicle driver's license under R.S.39:3-10 and a
37 probationary license issued under section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127
38 (C.39:3-13.4), the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor
39 Vehicle Commission shall, upon submission of satisfactory proof,
40 designate on an initial license, renewal license, or probationary
41 license, as appropriate, that the license holder is a veteran of the
42 Armed Forces of the United States of America. The designation of
43 veteran status on an initial license, renewal license, or probationary
44 license shall not be deemed sufficient valid proof of veteran status
45 for official governmental purposes when any other statute, or any
46 regulation or other directive of a governmental entity, requires
47 documentation of veteran status.

48 (2) In addition to the requirements for the form and content of a
49 motor vehicle driver's license under R.S.39:3-10 and a probationary

1 license issued under section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.4), the
2 Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
3 shall, upon submission of satisfactory proof, designate on an initial
4 license, renewal license, or probationary license, as appropriate,
5 that the license holder is a Gold Star Family member. The
6 commission shall provide to the Department of Military and
7 Veterans' Affairs personal identifying information of any person
8 issued a driver's license with a Gold Star Family designation
9 pursuant to this section.

10 b. For the purpose of this section:

11 "Gold Star Family member" means a spouse, domestic partner,
12 partner in a civil union, parent, brother, sister, child, legal guardian,
13 or other legal custodian, whether of the whole or half blood or by
14 adoption, of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or
15 National Guard, who lost his or her life while on active duty for the
16 United States.

17 "Veteran" means [a person who has been honorably discharged
18 from the active military service of the United States] any resident
19 of the State now or hereafter who has been discharged honorably or
20 under general honorable conditions in any branch of the Armed
21 Forces of the United States, or a Reserve component thereof, or the
22 National Guard of this State or another state as defined in section 1
23 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1).

24 "Satisfactory proof" means, in the case of a veteran, [a copy of
25 form] the applicant's DD-214, DD-215, or DD-256 form as issued
26 by the federal government, NGB-22 or other approved separation
27 forms as outlined by all branches of the Armed Forces, or federal
28 activation orders showing service under Title 10, section 672 or
29 section 12301, of the United States Code, or a county-issued
30 veteran identification card [only if issuance of the card requires a
31 copy of form DD-214 discharge papers or approved separation
32 forms as outlined by all branches of the military and duly recorded
33 by the county clerk's office.] pursuant to P.L.2012, c.30 (40A:9-
34 78.1 et seq.), or a veteran identification card as issued by the United
35 States Department of Veterans Affairs under the "Veterans
36 Identification Card Act of 2015," (38 U.S.C. 5706.) In the case of a
37 Gold Star Family member, satisfactory proof includes any or all of
38 the following:

39 (1) a certification from the Department of New Jersey of
40 American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., or any other organization formed
41 for the support of family members of members of the Armed Forces
42 of the United States or National Guard, who lost their lives while on
43 active duty for the United States, that the applicant is either the
44 spouse, domestic partner, partner in a civil union, parent, brother,
45 sister, child, legal guardian, or other legal custodian, whether of the
46 whole or half blood or by adoption, of a member of the armed
47 forces or National Guard who died while on active duty for the
48 United States; or

1 (2) (a) documentation deemed acceptable by the Adjutant
2 General, including, but not limited to, a federal DD Form 1300,
3 Report of Casualty, or a federal DD Form 2064, Certificate of
4 Death Overseas, which identifies the member of the Armed Forces
5 of the United States or National Guard who died while on active
6 duty for the United States; and

7 (b) documentation indicating the applicant's relationship to the
8 service member.

9 (cf. P.L.2017, c.175, s.5)

10
11 5. Section 1 of P.L.2017, c.193 (C.39:3-27.148) is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 1. a. Upon proper application, the Chief Administrator of the
14 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall issue Military Veteran
15 motorcycle license plates for any motorcycle owned or leased and
16 registered in this State. In addition to the registration number and
17 other markings or identification otherwise prescribed by law, the
18 license plate shall display the words, "U.S. Vet" along with an
19 image or other pictorial representation of the flag of the United
20 States of America. The chief administrator, in consultation with the
21 Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans'
22 Affairs, shall select the design of the Military Veteran motorcycle
23 license plates. The Military Veteran motorcycle license plates shall
24 be subject to the provisions of chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised
25 Statutes, except as hereinafter otherwise specifically provided.

26 b. Application for issuance of a Military Veteran motorcycle
27 license plate shall be made to the chief administrator on forms and
28 in a manner prescribed by the chief administrator. The application
29 shall include proof satisfactory to the chief administrator that the
30 applicant **【is a military veteran and】** has been **【honorably】**
31 discharged honorably or under general honorable conditions in any
32 branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, or a Reserve
33 component thereof, or the National Guard of this State or another
34 state as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), as
35 certified on the applicant's DD-214, DD-215, or DD-256 form as
36 issued by the federal government, NGB-22 or other approved
37 separation forms as outlined by all branches of the Armed Forces, a
38 county-issued veteran identification card pursuant to P.L.2012, c.30
39 (40A:9-78.1 et seq.), or a veteran identification card as issued by
40 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under the
41 “Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015,” (38 U.S.C. 5706;) or on
42 a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. In order to
43 be deemed complete, an application shall be accompanied by a fee
44 of \$50, payable to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission,
45 which shall be in addition to the fee otherwise prescribed by law for
46 the registration of a motorcycle. The chief administrator shall
47 collect annually, subsequent to the year of issuance of the Military
48 Veteran motorcycle license plate, a \$10 fee for the license plate in
49 addition to the fee otherwise prescribed by law for the registration

1 of a motorcycle. The additional fees required by this subsection
2 shall be deposited in the "Military Veteran Motorcycle License
3 Plate Fund" created pursuant to subsection c. of this section.

4 The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran, who is eligible to
5 operate a motorcycle in this State under the provisions of R.S.39:3-
6 10, may retain the Military Veteran motorcycle license plates
7 obtained by the deceased spouse pursuant to this section for display
8 on a motorcycle owned or leased by the surviving spouse.

9 c. There is created in the Department of the Treasury a special
10 non-lapsing fund to be known as the "Military Veteran Motorcycle
11 License Plate Fund." There shall be deposited in the fund the
12 amount collected from all license plate fees collected pursuant to
13 subsection b. of this section, less the amounts necessary to
14 reimburse the commission for administrative costs pursuant to
15 subsection d. of this section. Monies deposited in the fund shall be
16 appropriated annually to the Department of Military and Veterans'
17 Affairs and shall be used to support programs benefiting military
18 veterans. Monies deposited in the fund shall be held in interest-
19 bearing accounts in a public depository as defined pursuant to
20 section 1 of P.L.1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41), and may be invested or
21 reinvested in securities approved by the State Treasurer. Interest or
22 other income earned on monies deposited into the fund, and any
23 monies which may be appropriated or otherwise become available
24 for the purposes of the fund, shall be credited to and deposited in
25 the fund for use as set forth in P.L.2017, c.193 (C.39:3-27.148 et
26 seq.).

27 d. Prior to the deposit of the additional fees collected pursuant
28 to subsection b. of this section into the "Military Veteran
29 Motorcycle License Plate Fund," amounts thereof as are necessary
30 shall be used to reimburse the commission for all costs reasonably
31 and actually incurred, as stipulated by the chief administrator, for:

32 (1) designing, producing, issuing, renewing, and publicizing the
33 availability of the Military Veteran motorcycle license plates; and

34 (2) any computer programming changes that may be initially
35 necessary to implement the Military Veteran motorcycle license
36 plate program in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

37 The chief administrator shall annually certify to the State
38 Treasurer the average cost per license plate incurred in the
39 immediately preceding year by the commission in producing,
40 issuing, renewing, and publicizing the availability of the Military
41 Veteran motorcycle license plates. The annual certification of the
42 average cost per license plate shall be approved by the Joint Budget
43 Oversight Committee, or its successor.

44 In the event that the average cost per license plate as certified by
45 the chief administrator and approved by the Joint Budget Oversight
46 Committee, or its successor, is greater than the \$50 application fee
47 established in subsection b. of this section in two consecutive fiscal
48 years, the chief administrator may discontinue the issuance of
49 Military Veteran motorcycle license plates.

1 e. The chief administrator shall notify eligible motorists of the
2 opportunity to obtain Military Veteran motorcycle license plates by
3 publicizing the availability of the license plates on the commission's
4 website. The Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, and any
5 other individual or entity designated by the department, may
6 publicize the availability of the Military Veteran motorcycle license
7 plates in any manner that the department deems appropriate.

8 f. The chief administrator and adjutant general shall develop
9 and enter into an inter-departmental memorandum of agreement
10 setting forth the procedures to be followed in carrying out their
11 respective responsibilities under P.L.2017, c.193 (C.39:3-27.148 et
12 seq.).

13 g. The adjutant general shall appoint a representative who shall
14 act as a liaison between the Department of Military and Veterans'
15 Affairs and the commission. The liaison shall represent the
16 department in any and all communications with the commission
17 regarding the Military Veteran motorcycle license plates established
18 by P.L.2017, c.193 (C.39:3-27.148 et seq.).

19 (cf. P.L.2017, c.193, s.1)
20

21 6. Section 2 of P.L.1980, c.47 (C.39:3-29.3) is amended to read
22 as follows:

23 2. a. (1) The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall
24 issue an identification card to any resident of the State who is 14
25 years of age or older and who is not the holder of a valid permit or
26 basic driver's license. The identification card shall attest to the true
27 name, correct age, and veteran status, upon submission of
28 satisfactory proof, by any veteran, and shall contain other
29 identifying data as certified by the applicant for such identification
30 card. Every application for an identification card shall be signed
31 and verified by the applicant and shall be accompanied by the
32 written consent of at least one parent or the person's legal guardian
33 if the person is under 17 years of age and shall be supported by such
34 documentary evidence of the age, identity, and veteran status, or
35 blindness, or disability of such person as the chief administrator
36 may require. In addition to requiring an applicant for an
37 identification card to submit satisfactory proof of identity, age, and,
38 if appropriate, veteran status, the chief administrator also shall
39 require the applicant to provide, as a condition for obtaining the
40 card, satisfactory proof that the applicant's presence in the United
41 States is authorized under federal law. If the chief administrator
42 has reasonable cause to suspect that any document presented by an
43 applicant as proof of identity, age, veteran status, or legal residency
44 is altered, false or otherwise invalid, the chief administrator shall
45 refuse to grant the identification card until such time as the
46 document may be verified by the issuing agency to the chief
47 administrator's satisfaction.

48 (2) In addition to the requirements for the form and content of
49 an identification card pursuant to this section, the Chief
50 Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission shall,

1 upon submission of satisfactory proof, designate on an
2 identification card that the card holder is a Gold Star Family
3 member. The commission shall provide to the Department of
4 Military and Veterans' Affairs personal identifying information for
5 any person issued an identification card with a Gold Star Family
6 designation pursuant to this section.

7 b. The designation of veteran status on an identification card
8 shall not be deemed sufficient valid proof of veteran status for
9 official governmental purposes when any other statute, or any
10 regulation or other directive of a governmental entity, requires
11 documentation of veteran status.

12 c. For the purpose of this section:

13 "Gold Star Family member" means a spouse, domestic partner,
14 partner in a civil union, parent, brother, sister, child, legal guardian,
15 or other legal custodian, whether of the whole or half blood or by
16 adoption, of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or
17 National Guard, who lost his or her life while on active duty for the
18 United States.

19 "Veteran" means **[a person who has been honorably discharged**
20 **from the active military service of the United States]** any resident
21 of the State now or hereafter who has been discharged honorably or
22 under general honorable conditions in any branch of the Armed
23 Forces of the United States, or a Reserve component thereof, or the
24 National Guard of this State or another state as defined in section 1
25 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1); and

26 "Satisfactory proof" means, in the case of a veteran, **[a copy of**
27 **form]** the applicant's DD-214, DD-215, or DD-256 form as issued
28 by the federal government, or NGB-22 or other approved separation
29 forms as outlined by all branches of the Armed Forces, or federal
30 activation orders showing service under Title 10, section 672 or
31 section 12301, of the United States Code, or a county-issued
32 veteran identification card [only if issuance of the card requires a
33 copy of form DD-214 discharge papers or approved separation
34 forms as outlined by all branches of the military and duly recorded
35 by the county clerk's office] pursuant to P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-
36 78.1 et seq.), or a veteran identification card as issued by the United
37 States Department of Veterans Affairs under the "Veterans
38 Identification Card Act of 2015," (38 U.S.C. 5706). In the case of a
39 Gold Star Family member, satisfactory proof includes any or all of
40 the following:

41 (1) a certification from the Department of New Jersey of
42 American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., or any other organization formed
43 for the support of family members of members of the Armed Forces
44 of the United States or National Guard, who lost their lives while on
45 active duty for the United States, that the applicant is either the
46 spouse, domestic partner, partner in a civil union, parent, brother,
47 sister, child, legal guardian, or other legal custodian, whether of the
48 whole or half blood or by adoption, of a member of the armed

1 forces or National Guard who died while on active duty for the
2 United States; or

3 (2) (a) documentation deemed acceptable by the Adjutant
4 General, including, but not limited to, a federal DD Form 1300,
5 Report of Casualty, or a federal DD Form 2064, Certificate of
6 Death Overseas, which identifies the member of the Armed Forces
7 of the United States or National Guard who died while on active
8 duty for the United States; and

9 (b) documentation indicating the applicant's relationship to the
10 service member.

11 (cf. P.L.2017, c.175, s.7)

12

13 7. Section 1 of P.L.1955, c.49 (C.40:61-22.20) is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 1. a. The governing body of any municipality bordering on the
16 Atlantic Ocean, tidal water bays or rivers which owns or shall
17 acquire, by any deed of dedication or otherwise, lands bordering on
18 the ocean, tidal water bays or rivers, or easement rights therein, for
19 a place of resort for public health and recreation and for other
20 public purposes shall have the exclusive control, government and
21 care thereof and of any boardwalk, bathing and recreational
22 facilities, safeguards and equipment, now or hereafter constructed
23 or provided thereon, and may, by ordinance, make and enforce rules
24 and regulations for the government and policing of such lands,
25 boardwalk, bathing facilities, safeguards and equipment; provided,
26 that such power of control, government, care and policing shall not
27 be construed in any manner to exclude or interfere with the
28 operation of any State law or authority with respect to such lands,
29 property and facilities. Any such municipality may, in order to
30 provide funds to improve, maintain and police the same and to
31 protect the same from erosion, encroachment and damage by sea or
32 otherwise, and to provide facilities and safeguards for public
33 bathing and recreation, including the employment of lifeguards, by
34 ordinance, make and enforce rules and regulations for the
35 government, use, maintenance and policing thereof and provide for
36 the charging and collecting of reasonable fees for the registration of
37 persons using said lands and bathing facilities, for access to the
38 beach and bathing and recreational grounds so provided and for the
39 use of the bathing and recreational facilities, but no such fees shall
40 be charged or collected from children under the age of 12 years.

41 b. A municipality may by ordinance provide that no fees, or
42 reduced fees, shall be charged to:

43 (1) persons 65 or more years of age;

44 (2) persons who meet the disability criteria for disability
45 benefits under Title II of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
46 s.401 et seq.);

47 (3) persons in active military service in any of the Armed Forces
48 of the United States and to their spouse or dependent children over
49 the age of 12 years;

1 (4) persons who are active members of the New Jersey National
2 Guard who have completed Initial Active Duty Training and to their
3 spouse or dependent children over the age of 12 years. As used in
4 this paragraph, "Initial Active Duty Training" means Basic Military
5 Training, for members of the New Jersey Air National Guard, and
6 Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, for
7 members of the New Jersey Army National Guard;

8 (5) persons who have served in any of the Armed Forces of the
9 United States and who were discharged or released therefrom under
10 conditions other than dishonorable and who either have served at
11 least 90 days in active duty or have been discharged or released
12 from active duty by reason of a service-incurred injury or disability.
13 The Adjutant General of the New Jersey Department of Military
14 and Veterans' Affairs shall promulgate rules and regulations
15 pertaining to veteran eligibility under this paragraph; and

16 (6) persons holding a driver's license or identification card with
17 a Gold Star Family designation issued pursuant to section 1 of
18 P.L.2013, c.165 (C.39:3-10f6) or section 2 of P.L.1980, c.47
19 (C.39:3-29.3), respectively.

20 c. A municipality providing for no fees or reduced fees
21 pursuant to paragraph (3), (4), (5), or (6) of subsection b. of this
22 section shall track, in a manner deemed appropriate by the
23 governing body of the municipality, the number of persons who
24 qualify under the provisions of those paragraphs.

25 d. A person who qualifies for free access to beaches and
26 bathing and recreational grounds and free use of bathing and
27 recreational facilities pursuant to paragraph (3), (4), (5), or (6) of
28 subsection b. of this section may, in lieu of obtaining and presenting
29 a municipal beach tag or similar admission pass to gain such access
30 and use, present a **valid military identification card, form** DD-
31 214, DD-215, or DD-256 form as issued by the federal government,
32 NGB-22 or other approved separation forms as outlined by all
33 branches of the Armed Forces, a county-issued veteran
34 identification card pursuant to P.L.2012, c.30 (40A:9-78.1 et seq.),
35 a veteran identification card as issued by the United States
36 Department of Veterans Affairs under the "Veterans Identification
37 Card Act of 2015," (38 U.S.C. 5706,) or similar document, or State
38 driver's license or identification card indicating that the holder is a
39 veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or a Gold Star
40 Family member.

41 (cf. P.L.2017, c.175, s.8)

42
43 8. Section 2 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.2) is amended to
44 read as follows:

45 2. As used in this act, P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.1 et seq.),
46 "veteran" means **a person** any resident of this State now or
47 hereafter who has served in **the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines**
48 **or Coast Guard** any branch of the Armed Forces of the United
49 States or a Reserve component thereof or the National Guard of this

1 State or another State as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109
2 (C.38A:1-1), and has been **【honorably】** discharged honorably or
3 **【released】** under general honorable conditions **【other than**
4 **dishonorable】** from such service.
5 (cf. P.L.2017, c.292, s.1)

6
7 9. Section 3 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.3) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. A county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as
10 appropriate, may establish a veteran identification card program for
11 the sole purpose of identifying the holder as a veteran when such
12 identification is required to receive discounts or other courtesies
13 extended to military veterans, or to prove status as a veteran or
14 character of service to receive benefits afforded veterans under the
15 laws of this State, if eligible.
16 (cf. P.L.2012, c.30, s.3)

17
18 10. Section 4 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.4) is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 4. a. When such a program has been authorized, the county
21 clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate, shall issue
22 an identification card to any veteran who is a resident of the county
23 **【and who does not hold an identification card issued by the federal**
24 **government that identifies the person as a veteran】**. The veteran
25 identification card shall bear the true name, branch of the military
26 in which the veteran served, date of card issuance, **【separation form**
27 **submitted,】** and other identifying information as certified by the
28 applicant for such veteran identification card. Every application for
29 a veteran identification card shall be signed and certified by the
30 applicant and shall be supported by such documentary evidence as
31 the county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate,
32 may require.

33 b. **【The】** Any of the following shall constitute documentary
34 evidence required by subsection a. of this section **【shall include】** :
35 the applicant's DD-214, DD-215, or DD-256 form as issued by the
36 federal government, an NGB-22 or other approved separation forms
37 as outlined by all branches of the 【military】 Armed Forces, or
38 veteran identification card as issued by the United States
39 Department of Veteran Affairs under the “Veterans Identification
40 Card Act of 2015,” (38 U.S.C. 5706,) and duly recorded by the
41 office. The county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as
42 appropriate, shall require a copy of the documentary evidence
43 submitted to be kept on file with the application for the veteran
44 identification card, and shall note the location of the original **【DD-**
45 **214 or other approved separation form on that application form】**
46 documentary evidence as pursuant to this subsection. The copy of
47 the documentary evidence submitted and the application shall be
48 kept confidential and shall not be considered a government record

1 under P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), except that they may be
2 released to another government agency. The Adjutant General of
3 the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall assist in the
4 identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation
5 forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by
6 applicants.
7 (cf. P.L.2017, c.292, s.2)

8
9 11. Section 1 of P.L.1985, c.482 (C.40A:11-41) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 1. As used in this act:

12 a. "County or municipal contracting agency" shall mean the
13 governing body of a county or municipality or any department,
14 board, commission, committee, authority or agency of a county or
15 municipality but shall not include school districts;

16 b. "Minority group members" shall mean persons who are
17 black, Hispanic, Portuguese, Asian-American, American Indian or
18 Alaskan natives;

19 c. "Qualified women's business enterprise" shall mean a
20 business which has its principal place of business in this State, is
21 independently owned and operated, is at least **【51%】** 51 percent
22 owned and controlled by women and is qualified pursuant to section
23 25 of P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-25);

24 d. "Qualified minority business enterprise" shall mean a
25 business which has its principal place of business in this State, is
26 independently owned and operated, is at least **【51%】** 51 percent
27 owned and controlled by minority group members and is qualified
28 pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-25);

29 e. "Qualified small business enterprise" shall mean a business
30 which has its principal place of business in this State, is
31 independently owned and operated and meets all other
32 qualifications as may be established in accordance with P.L.1981,
33 c.283 (C.52:27H-21.1 et seq.);

34 f. "Set-aside contracts" shall mean (1) a contract for goods,
35 equipment, construction, or services which is designated as a
36 contract for which bids are invited and accepted only from qualified
37 small business enterprises, qualified veteran business enterprises,
38 qualified minority business enterprises or qualified women's
39 business enterprises, as appropriate, (2) a portion of a contract when
40 that portion has been so designated, or (3) any other purchase or
41 procurement so designated;

42 g. "Total procurements" shall mean all purchases, contracts or
43 acquisitions of a county or municipal contracting agency, whether
44 by competitive bidding, single source contracting, or other method
45 of procurement, as prescribed or permitted by law;

46 h. "Veteran" **【shall have the same meaning as set forth in**
47 subsection b. of N.J.S.11A:5-1,】 means any resident of this State
48 now or hereafter who has served in any branch of the Armed Forces
49 of the United States or a Reserve component thereof or the National

1 Guard of this State or another state as defined in section 1 of
2 P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and has been discharged honorably or
3 under general honorable conditions from such service, except that
4 the veteran shall present to the Adjutant General of the Department
5 of Military and Veterans' Affairs sufficient evidence of a record of
6 service, which shall include the applicant's DD-214, DD-215, or
7 DD-256 form as issued by the federal government; NGB-22 or
8 other approved separation forms as outlined by all branches of the
9 Armed Forces; a county-issued veteran identification card pursuant
10 to P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.1 et seq.); or a veteran identification
11 card as issued by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs
12 under the "Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015," (38 U.S.C.
13 5706;) and receive a determination of status no later than the date
14 established for the submission of bids; and

15 i. "Qualified veteran business enterprise" shall mean a
16 business which has its principal place of business in this State, is
17 independently owned and operated, is at least **51%** 51 percent
18 owned and controlled by a veteran or that wherein at least twenty
19 five percent of the required workforce for the contract are veterans,
20 including new hires if additional workers are required to perform
21 the contract, and is qualified pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1971,
22 c.198 (C.40A:11-25). The business shall also submit forms
23 quarterly to the contracting agency showing proof of veteran status
24 for all the veteran employees.
25 (cf. P.L.2013, c.5, s.1)

26

27 12. Section 2 of P.L.2017, c.258 (C.52:27D-517) is amended to
28 read as follows:

29 2. As used in this act:

30 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Housing and
31 Community Resources in the Department of Community Affairs.

32 "Disabled" means a person who fulfills the definition of having a
33 "disability" pursuant to section 3 of the "Americans with
34 Disabilities Act of 1990," 42 U.S.C. s.12102.

35 "Division" means the Division of Housing and Community
36 Resources in the Department of Community Affairs.

37 "Eligible veteran" means a disabled or low-income veteran.

38 "Energy efficient features or equipment" means features or
39 equipment within a primary residence that help to reduce the
40 amount of electricity used to heat, cool, or ventilate the residence,
41 including but not limited to insulation, weatherstripping, air sealing,
42 repaired heating systems, or duct sealing.

43 "Family member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, aunt,
44 uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin, grandparent, grandchild, father-
45 in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent,
46 stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister, whether
47 the individual is related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

48 "Low-income veteran" means a veteran occupying a household
49 with a gross household income equal to 50 percent or less of the

1 median gross household income for households of the same size,
2 and within the same housing region, as defined by subsection b. of
3 section 4 of P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-304).

4 "Primary residence" means a dwelling unit that is owned by the
5 eligible veteran or by a family member of the eligible veteran, and
6 occupied by the eligible veteran as his or her principal residence.

7 "Qualified organization" means a nonprofit veterans'
8 organization that qualifies as a section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) tax
9 exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

10 "Veteran" means any resident of the State now or hereafter who
11 has been **【honorably】** discharged honorably or **【released】** under
12 general honorable **【circumstances from active service】** conditions
13 in any branch of the **【armed forces】** Armed Forces of the United
14 States, or a Reserve component thereof, or the National Guard of
15 this State or another state as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109
16 (C.38A:1-1), or any honorably discharged member of the American
17 Merchant Marine who served during World War II and is declared
18 by the United States Department of Defense to be eligible for
19 federal veterans' benefits.
20 (cf. P.L.2017, c.258, s.2)

21
22 13. Section 2 of P.L.2011, c. 147 (C.52:32-50) is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 2. As used in this act:

25 "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development
26 Authority.

27 "Contracting agency" means the State or any board, commission,
28 authority or agency of the State.

29 "Department" means the New Jersey Department of the
30 Treasury.

31 "Veteran" means any **【citizen and】** resident of this State now or
32 hereafter **【honorably】** who has been discharged honorably or
33 **【released】** under general honorable **【circumstances】** conditions
34 who served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States
35 or a Reserve component thereof or the National Guard of this State
36 or another state as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109
37 (C.38A:1-1), **【for at least 90 days】** and shall include disabled
38 veterans.

39 "Veteran-owned business" means a business that has its principal
40 place of business in the State, is independently owned and operated
41 and at least **【51%】** 51 percent of the business is owned and
42 controlled by persons who are veterans.

43 (cf. P.L.2011, c.147, s.2)

44
45 14. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill establishes a uniform standard for acceptable proof of veteran status for veteran identification cards and various State and local programs.

N.J.S.A.40A:9-78.2 establishes a county veterans ID card program for the sole purpose of identifying the holder as a veteran when such identification is required to receive discounts or other courtesies extended to military veterans. In 2015, the federal government enacted the “Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015,” which created an additional veterans’ identification card. These two identification cards were created to allow veterans to prove their Armed Forces service without having to carry around their DD-214 form or other sensitive documents.

The creation of these additional veterans’ identification cards has led to different standards of proof across State and local agencies and programs designed to benefit veterans. In addition, several State and local agencies do not accept certain forms of proof for reservists of the Armed Forces whose active duty was limited to reserve-connected active training or service, such as a DD-256 form. This bill streamlines the disparate list of documents acceptable to various State and local agencies to demonstrate uniformed service for veterans.

This bill also re-defines the “character of service” benchmark that veterans must reach to qualify for various State and local programs. To qualify for benefits afforded veterans under the laws of this State, a veteran is required to be released from service under honorable or general honorable conditions. This removes the previous benchmark of being released under conditions other than dishonorable, which included “bad conduct” and “other than honorable conditions” releases.