

SENATE, No. 2968

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Connors and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Changes definition of veteran for civil service hiring preference.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/5/2020)

S2968 GOPAL, CORRADO

2

1 AN ACT concerning the definition of veteran for civil service hiring
2 preference and amending N.J.S.11A:5-1.

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

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7 1. N.J.S.11A:5-1 is amended to read as follows

8 11A:5-1. As used in this chapter:

9 a. "Disabled veteran" means any veteran who is eligible to be
10 compensated for a service-connected disability from war service by
11 the United States Veterans Administration or who receives or is
12 entitled to receive equivalent compensation for a service-connected
13 disability which arises out of military or naval service as set forth in
14 this chapter and who has submitted sufficient evidence of the record
15 of disability incurred in the line of duty to the Adjutant General of
16 the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs and received a
17 determination of status no later than eight days prior to the issuance
18 of an employment list, for which that individual received a passing
19 score on an examination;

20 b. "Veteran" means any honorably discharged soldier, sailor,
21 marine or nurse who served in any army or navy of the allies of the
22 United States in World War I, between July 14, 1914 and November
23 11, 1918, or who served in any army or navy of the allies of the
24 United States in World War II, between September 1, 1939 and
25 September 2, 1945 and who was inducted into that service through
26 voluntary enlistment, and was a citizen of the United States at the
27 time of the enlistment, and who did not renounce or lose his or her
28 United States citizenship; or any soldier, sailor, marine, airman,
29 nurse or army field clerk, who has served in the active military or
30 naval service of the United States and who has been discharged or
31 released under other than dishonorable conditions from that service
32 in any of the following wars or conflicts, and who has presented to
33 the Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans'
34 Affairs sufficient evidence of the record of service and received a
35 determination of status no later than eight days prior to the issuance
36 of an employment list, for which that individual received a passing
37 score on an examination:

38 (1) World War I, between April 6, 1917 and November 11,
39 1918;

40 (2) World War II, on or after September 16, 1940, who shall
41 have served **[at least 90 days]** beginning on or before December 31,
42 1946 in **[such]** active service**],** exclusive of any period of
43 assignment for a course of education or training under the Army
44 Specialized Training Program or the Navy College Training
45 Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and

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 was pursued to completion, or as a cadet or midshipman at one of
2 the service academies; except that any person receiving an actual
3 service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed a veteran
4 whether or not that person has completed the 90-day service】;

5 (3) Korean conflict, on or after June 23, 1950, who shall have
6 served 【at least 90 days】 beginning on or before January 31, 1955,
7 in active service【, exclusive of any period of assignment for a
8 course of education or training under the Army Specialized
9 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which
10 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to
11 completion, or as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service
12 academies; except that any person receiving an actual service-
13 incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or
14 not that person has completed the 90-day service】;

15 (4) Lebanon crisis, on or after July 1, 1958, who has served in
16 Lebanon or on board any ship 【actively engaged】 in 【patrolling】
17 the territorial waters of that nation 【for a period, continuous or in
18 the aggregate, of at least 14 days】 commencing on or before
19 November 1, 1958 or the date of termination of that conflict, as
20 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,
21 whichever date of termination is the latest, in such active service【;
22 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury
23 or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person
24 has completed the 14 days' service as herein provided】;

25 (5) Vietnam conflict, on or after December 31, 1960【, who shall
26 have served at least 90 days】 beginning on or before May 7, 1975,
27 in active service【, exclusive of any period of assignment for a
28 course of education or training under the Army Specialized
29 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which
30 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to
31 completion, or as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service
32 academies, and exclusive of any service performed pursuant to the
33 provisions of section 511(d) of Title 10, United States Code, or
34 exclusive of any service performed pursuant to enlistment in the
35 National Guard or the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force
36 Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve; except
37 that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or
38 disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person
39 has completed the 90-day service as provided】;

40 (6) Lebanon peacekeeping mission, on or after September 26,
41 1982, who has served in Lebanon or in another area in the region, or
42 on board any ship 【actively engaged】 in 【patrolling】 the territorial
43 waters of that nation 【for a period, continuous or in the aggregate,
44 of at least 14 days】 commencing on or before December 1, 1987 or
45 the date of termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the
46 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of

1 termination is the latest, in such active service【; provided, that any
2 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall
3 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the
4 14 days' service as herein provided】;

5 (7) Grenada peacekeeping mission, on or after October 23,
6 1983, who has served in Grenada or in another area in the region, or
7 on board any ship 【actively engaged】 in 【patrolling】 the territorial
8 waters of that nation 【for a period, continuous or in the aggregate,
9 of at least 14 days】 commencing on or before November 21, 1983
10 or the date of termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the
11 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of
12 termination is the latest, in such active service【; provided, that any
13 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall
14 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the
15 14 days' service as herein provided】;

16 (8) Panama peacekeeping mission, on or after December 20,
17 1989 or the date of inception of that mission, as proclaimed by the
18 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of
19 inception is earliest, who has served in Panama or in another area in
20 the region, or on board any ship 【actively engaged】 in 【patrolling】
21 the territorial waters of that nation 【for a period, continuous or in
22 the aggregate, of at least 14 days】 commencing on or before
23 January 31, 1990 or the date of termination of that mission, as
24 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,
25 whichever date of termination is the latest, in such active service【;
26 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury
27 or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person
28 has completed the 14 days' service as herein provided】;

29 (9) Operation "Desert Shield/Desert Storm" mission in the
30 Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, on or after August 2, 1990
31 or the date of inception of that operation, as proclaimed by the
32 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of
33 inception is earliest, who has served in the Arabian peninsula or on
34 board any ship 【actively engaged】 in 【patrolling】 the Persian Gulf
35 【for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days】
36 commencing on or before the date of termination of that mission, as
37 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,
38 whichever date of termination is the latest, in such active service【;
39 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury
40 or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person
41 has completed the 14 days' service as herein provided】;

42 (10) Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch,
43 on or after August 27, 1992, or the date of inception of that
44 operation, as proclaimed by the President of the United States,
45 Congress or United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of
46 inception is earliest, who served in the theater of operation,

1 including in the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, and in
2 **【direct】** support of that operation **【for a period, continuously or in**
3 **the aggregate, of at least 14 days】** in such active service
4 commencing on or before the date of termination of that operation,
5 as proclaimed by the President of the United States, Congress or
6 United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of termination
7 is the latest**【; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-**
8 **incurred injury or disability while engaged in such service shall be**
9 **classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14**
10 **days' service as herein provided】;**

11 (11) Operation "Restore Hope" in Somalia, on or after December
12 5, 1992, or the date of inception of that operation as proclaimed by
13 the President of the United States or the Congress, whichever date
14 is earliest, who has served in Somalia or in another area in the
15 region, or on board any ship **【actively engaged】** in **【patrolling】** the
16 territorial waters of that nation **【for a period, continuously or in the**
17 **aggregate, of at least 14 days】** in such active service commencing
18 on or before March 31, 1994**【; provided that any person receiving**
19 **an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a**
20 **veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service**
21 **as herein provided】;**

22 (12) Operations "Joint Endeavor" and "Joint Guard" in the
23 Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on or after November 20,
24 1995, who served in such active service in **【direct】** support of one
25 or both of the operations **【for at least 14 days, continuously or in**
26 **the aggregate,】** commencing on or before June 20, 1998, and (1)
27 was deployed in that nation or in another area in the region, or (2)
28 was on board a United States naval vessel operating in the Adriatic
29 Sea, or (3) operated in airspace above the Republic of Bosnia and
30 Herzegovina**【; provided that any person receiving an actual service-**
31 **incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or**
32 **not that person completed the 14-day service requirement】;**

33 (13) Operation "Uphold Democracy" in Haiti, on or after
34 September 19, 1994, who served in Haiti or on board any ship
35 **【actively engaged】** in **【patrolling】** the territorial waters of that
36 nation **【for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least 14**
37 **days】** in such active service commencing on or before March 31,
38 1995, and who received an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for
39 such service**【; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-**
40 **incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or**
41 **not that person has completed the 14 days' service as herein**
42 **provided or received an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal】;**

43 (14) Operation "Enduring Freedom", on or after September 11,
44 2001, who served in a theater of operation and in **【direct】** support
45 of that operation **【for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of**
46 **at least 14 days】** in such active service commencing on or before

1 the date the President of the United States or the United States
2 Secretary of Defense designates as the termination date of that
3 operation【; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-
4 incurred injury or disability while engaged in such service shall be
5 classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14
6 days' service as herein provided】; and

7 (15) Operation "Iraqi Freedom", on or after the date the President
8 of the United States or the United States Secretary of Defense
9 designates as the inception date of that operation, who served in
10 Iraq or in another area in the region in 【direct】 support of that
11 operation 【for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least
12 14 days】 in such active service commencing on or before the date
13 the President of the United States or the United States Secretary of
14 Defense designates as the termination date of that operation【;
15 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury
16 or disability while engaged in such service shall be classed as a
17 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'
18 service as herein provided】;

19 c. "War service" means service by a veteran in any war or
20 conflict described in this chapter during the periods specified.
21 (cf: P.L.2007, c.115, s.1)

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23 2. This act shall take effect on the 30th day after the date of
24 enactment.

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STATEMENT

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29 Under current law, a veteran is eligible for a civil service hiring
30 preference, if the person served during specified dates or in
31 specified locations, and in some instances, for a specific length of
32 time.

33 This bill changes the definition of veteran for the civil service
34 hiring preference by removing the requirement of service for
35 specific lengths of time and broadens the specified locations for
36 eligibility.