

**ASSEMBLY, No. 854**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**220th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman JOE DANIELSEN**

**District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

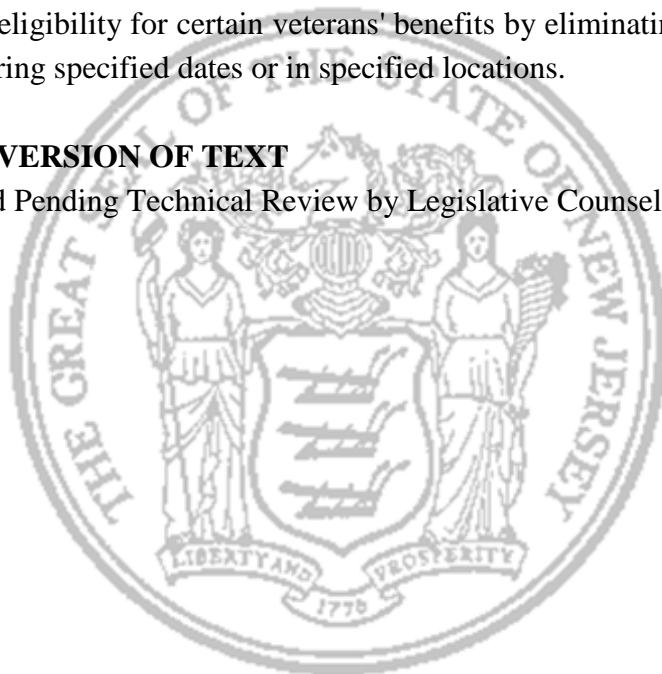
**Assemblywoman Gove, Assemblyman Rumpf, Assemblywoman N.Munoz,  
Assemblymen Benson, Coughlin, DeAngelo, DiMaio, Giblin,  
Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Dunn and Murphy**

**SYNOPSIS**

Broadens eligibility for certain veterans' benefits by eliminating requirement of service during specified dates or in specified locations.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/5/2022)**

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for certain veterans' benefits,  
2 amending and repealing various parts of the statutory law and  
3 supplementing Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes and  
4 P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.10 et seq.).

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

8  
9 1. N.J.S.11A:5-1 is amended to read as follows:  
10 11A:5-1. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

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

23 b. "Veteran" means any **[honorably discharged soldier, sailor,**  
24 **marine or nurse who served in any army or navy of the allies of the**  
25 **United States in World War I, between July 14, 1914 and November**  
26 **11, 1918, or who served in any army or navy of the allies of the**  
27 **United States in World War II, between September 1, 1939 and**  
28 **September 2, 1945 and who was inducted into that service through**  
29 **voluntary enlistment, and was a citizen of the United States at the**  
30 **time of the enlistment, and who did not renounce or lose his or her**  
31 **United States citizenship; or any soldier, sailor, marine, airman,**  
32 **nurse or army field clerk, who has served in the active military or**  
33 **naval service of the United States]** person who (1) served at least  
34 90 days of active service in the Armed Forces of the United States,  
35 excluding any period of service for basic training or as a cadet or  
36 midshipman at one of the service academies, or (2) served as a  
37 member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United  
38 States for an entire period for which called to federal active service,  
39 not including active duty for training, and has been discharged or  
40 released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable  
41 **[conditions from that service in any of the following wars or**  
42 **conflicts]** and who has presented to the Adjutant General of the  
43 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs sufficient evidence of  
44 the record of service and received a determination of status no later

**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 than eight days prior to the issuance of an employment list, for  
2 which that individual received a passing score on an examination  
3 **【**: (1) World War I, between April 6, 1917 and November 11,  
4 1918;

5 (2) World War II, on or after September 16, 1940, who shall  
6 have served at least 90 days beginning on or before December 31,  
7 1946 in such active service, exclusive of any period of assignment  
8 for a 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 a veteran whether or  
14 not that person has completed the 90-day service;

15 (3) Korean conflict, on or after June 23, 1950, who shall have  
16 served at least 90 days beginning on or before January 31, 1955, in  
17 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment for a course of  
18 education or training under the Army Specialized Training Program  
19 or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a  
20 continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or  
21 as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies; except  
22 that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or  
23 disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person  
24 has completed the 90-day service;

25 (4) Lebanon crisis, on or after July 1, 1958, who has served in  
26 Lebanon or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the  
27 territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the  
28 aggregate, of at least 14 days commencing on or before November  
29 1, 1958 or the date of termination of that conflict, as proclaimed by  
30 the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
31 termination is the latest, in such active service; provided, that any  
32 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall  
33 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the  
34 14 days' service as herein provided;

35 (5) Vietnam conflict, on or after December 31, 1960, who shall  
36 have served at least 90 days beginning on or before May 7, 1975, in  
37 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment for a course of  
38 education or training under the Army Specialized Training Program  
39 or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a  
40 continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or  
41 as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, and  
42 exclusive of any service performed pursuant to the provisions of  
43 section 511(d) of Title 10, United States Code, or exclusive of any  
44 service performed pursuant to enlistment in the National Guard or  
45 the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine  
46 Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve; except that any person  
47 receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be

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1 classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the  
2 90-day service as provided;

3 (6) Lebanon peacekeeping mission, on or after September 26,  
4 1982, who has served in Lebanon or on board any ship actively  
5 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
6 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
7 commencing on or before December 1, 1987 or the date of  
8 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
9 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
10 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
11 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
12 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
13 service as herein provided;

14 (7) Grenada peacekeeping mission, on or after October 23,  
15 1983, who has served in Grenada or on board any ship actively  
16 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
17 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
18 commencing on or before November 21, 1983 or the date of  
19 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
20 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
21 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
22 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
23 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
24 service as herein provided;

25 (8) Panama peacekeeping mission, on or after December 20,  
26 1989 or the date of inception of that mission, as proclaimed by the  
27 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
28 inception is earliest, who has served in Panama or on board any ship  
29 actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for  
30 a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
31 commencing on or before January 31, 1990 or the date of  
32 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
33 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
34 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
35 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
36 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
37 service as herein provided;

38 (9) Operation "Desert Shield/Desert Storm" mission in the  
39 Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, on or after August 2, 1990  
40 or the date of inception of that operation, as proclaimed by the  
41 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
42 inception is earliest, who has served in the Arabian peninsula or on  
43 board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the Persian Gulf for a  
44 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
45 commencing on or before the date of termination of that mission, as  
46 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,  
47 whichever date of termination is the latest, in such active service;  
48 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury

1 or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person  
2 has completed the 14 days' service as herein provided;

3 (10) Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch,  
4 on or after August 27, 1992, or the date of inception of that  
5 operation, as proclaimed by the President of the United States,  
6 Congress or United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of  
7 inception is earliest, who served in the theater of operation,  
8 including in the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, and in  
9 direct support of that operation for a period, continuously or in the  
10 aggregate, of at least 14 days in such active service commencing on  
11 or before the date of termination of that operation, as proclaimed by  
12 the President of the United States, Congress or United States  
13 Secretary of Defense, whichever date of termination is the latest;  
14 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury  
15 or disability while engaged in such service shall be classed as a  
16 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
17 service as herein provided;

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

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

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

1 (14) Operation "Enduring Freedom", on or after September 11,  
2 2001, who served in a theater of operation and in direct support of  
3 that operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at  
4 least 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the  
5 date the President of the United States or the United States  
6 Secretary of Defense designates as the termination date of that  
7 operation; 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; and

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

23 c. "War service" means service by a veteran in any war or  
24 conflict described in this chapter during the periods specified **1**.

25 A person who served fewer than 90 days of active service or who  
26 served less than the entire period to which called to federal active  
27 service shall be classed as a veteran if that person has been  
28 discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable as a  
29 result of a service-connected disability incurred as a result of such  
30 service.

31 (cf: P.L.2007, c.115, s.1)

32

33 2. N.J.S.11A:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

34 11A:5-3. Parent and spouse of veteran who has died in service.  
35 A parent and spouse of any veteran who died while in, and as a  
36 result of, federal active service and who would have qualified under  
37 this chapter as a veteran, shall be entitled to a disabled veterans'  
38 preference. Where both a parent and spouse survive, the exercise of  
39 the preference by one shall suspend the right of any other so long as  
40 the first individual who exercises preference remains in the employ  
41 of the State or any political subdivision operating under the  
42 provisions of this title.

43 (cf: N.J.S.11A:5-3)

44

45 3. N.J.S.11A:5-11 is amended to read as follows:

46 11A:5-11. Veterans not to be discriminated against because of  
47 physical defects. Veterans suffering from any physical defect  
48 caused by **1**wounds or injuries received in the line of duty in the

1 military or naval forces of the United States during war service set  
2 forth in N.J.S.11A:5-1 an injury, disease or disability incurred as a  
3 result of active service in the Armed Forces of the United States or  
4 a reserve component thereof, shall not be discriminated against in  
5 an examination, classification or appointment because of the defect,  
6 unless this defect, in the opinion of the Civil Service Commission,  
7 would incapacitate the veteran from properly performing the duties  
8 of the office, position or employment for which applied.

9 (cf: P.L.2008, c.29, s.46)

10

11 4. N.J.S.18A:66-2 is amended to read as follows:

12 18A:66-2. As used in this article:

13 a. "Accumulated deductions" means the sum of all the  
14 amounts, deducted from the compensation of a member or  
15 contributed by or in behalf of the member, including interest  
16 credited to January 1, 1956, standing to the credit of the member's  
17 individual account in the annuity savings fund.

18 b. "Annuity" means payments for life derived from the  
19 accumulated deductions of a member as provided in this article.

20 c. "Beneficiary" means any person receiving a retirement  
21 allowance or other benefit as provided in this article.

22 d. (1) "Compensation" means the contractual salary, for  
23 services as a teacher as defined in this article, which is in  
24 accordance with established salary policies of the member's  
25 employer for all employees in the same position but shall not  
26 include individual salary adjustments which are granted primarily in  
27 anticipation of the member's retirement or additional remuneration  
28 for performing temporary or extracurricular duties beyond the  
29 regular school day or the regular school year.

30 (2) In the case of a person who becomes a member of the  
31 retirement system on or after July 1, 2007, "compensation" means  
32 the amount of the contractual salary equivalent to the annual  
33 maximum wage contribution base for Social Security, pursuant to  
34 the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, for services as a teacher as  
35 defined in this article, which is in accordance with established  
36 salary policies of the member's employer for all employees in the  
37 same position but shall not include individual salary adjustments  
38 which are granted primarily in anticipation of the member's  
39 retirement or additional remuneration for performing temporary or  
40 extracurricular duties beyond the regular school day or the regular  
41 school year. This paragraph shall not apply to a person who at the  
42 time of enrollment in the retirement system on or after July 1, 2007  
43 transfers service credit from another State-administered retirement  
44 system pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-15.1, but shall apply to a former  
45 member of the retirement system who has been granted a retirement  
46 allowance and is reenrolled in the retirement system on or after July  
47 1, 2007 pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-53.2 after becoming employed

1 again in a position that makes the person eligible to be a member of  
2 the retirement system.

3 For the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011,  
4 "contractual salary" for State employees shall include wage  
5 increases under a collective negotiations agreement notwithstanding  
6 that, by amendment to that collective negotiations agreement, the  
7 effective date of the contractual increase has been deferred. For the  
8 purpose of this paragraph, "State employee" means an employee in  
9 the Executive Branch of State government of New Jersey.

10 e. "Employer" means the State, the board of education or any  
11 educational institution or agency of or within the State by which a  
12 teacher is paid.

13 f. (1) "Final compensation" means the average annual  
14 compensation for which contributions are made for the three years  
15 of creditable service in New Jersey immediately preceding the  
16 member's retirement or death, or it shall mean the average annual  
17 compensation for New Jersey service for which contributions are  
18 made during any three fiscal years of his or her membership  
19 providing the largest possible benefit to the member or the  
20 member's beneficiary.

21 (2) In the case of a person who becomes a member of the  
22 retirement system on or after the effective date of P.L.2010, c.1,  
23 "final compensation" means the average annual compensation for  
24 which contributions are made for the five years of creditable service  
25 in New Jersey immediately preceding the member's retirement or  
26 death, or it shall mean the average annual compensation for New  
27 Jersey service for which contributions are made during any five  
28 fiscal years of his or her membership providing the largest possible  
29 benefit to the member or the member's beneficiary.

30 g. "Fiscal year" means any year commencing with July 1, and  
31 ending with June 30, next following.

32 h. "Pension" means payments for life derived from  
33 appropriations made by the State or employers to the Teachers'  
34 Pension and Annuity Fund.

35 i. "Annuity reserve" means the present value of all payments  
36 to be made on account of any annuity or benefit in lieu of an  
37 annuity, granted under the provisions of this article, computed on  
38 the basis of such mortality tables recommended by the actuary as  
39 the board of trustees adopts, with regular interest.

40 j. "Pension reserve" means the present value of all payments to  
41 be made on account of any pension or benefit in lieu of a pension  
42 granted to a member from the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund,  
43 computed on the basis of such mortality tables recommended by the  
44 actuary as the board of trustees adopts, with regular interest.

45 k. "Present-entrant" means any member of the Teachers'  
46 Pension and Annuity Fund who had established status as a "present-  
47 entrant member" of said fund prior to January 1, 1956.



- 1       l. "Rate of contribution initially certified" means the rate of  
2 contribution certified by the retirement system in accordance with  
3 N.J.S.18A:66-29.
- 4       m. "Regular interest" shall mean interest as determined by the  
5 State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the  
6 Divisions of Investment and Pensions, the board of trustees and the  
7 actuary. It shall bear a reasonable relationship to the percentage rate  
8 of earnings on investments based on the market value of assets but  
9 shall not exceed the assumed percentage rate of increase applied to  
10 salaries plus 3%, provided however that the board of trustees shall  
11 not set the average percentage rate of increase applied to salaries  
12 below 6%.
- 13       n. "Retirement allowance" means the pension plus the annuity.
- 14       o. "School service" means any service as a "teacher" as defined  
15 in this section.
- 16       p. "Teacher" means any regular teacher, special teacher,  
17 helping teacher, teacher clerk, principal, vice-principal, supervisor,  
18 supervising principal, director, superintendent, city superintendent,  
19 assistant city superintendent, county superintendent, State  
20 Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of Education, members  
21 of the State Department of Education who are certificated,  
22 unclassified professional staff and other members of the teaching or  
23 professional staff of any class, public school, high school, normal  
24 school, model school, training school, vocational school, truant  
25 reformatory school, or parental school, and of any and all classes or  
26 schools within the State conducted under the order and  
27 superintendence, and wholly or partly at the expense of the State  
28 Board of Education, of a duly elected or appointed board of  
29 education, board of school directors, or board of trustees of the  
30 State or of any school district or normal school district thereof, and  
31 any persons under contract or engagement to perform one or more  
32 of these functions. It shall also mean any person who serves, while  
33 on an approved leave of absence from regular duties as a teacher, as  
34 an officer of a local, county or State labor organization which  
35 represents, or is affiliated with an organization which represents,  
36 teachers as defined in this subsection. No person shall be deemed a  
37 teacher within the meaning of this article who is a substitute  
38 teacher. In all cases of doubt the board of trustees shall determine  
39 whether any person is a teacher as defined in this article.
- 40       q. "Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund," hereinafter referred  
41 to as the "retirement system" or "system," is the corporate name of  
42 the arrangement for the payment of retirement allowances and other  
43 benefits under the provisions of this article, including the several  
44 funds placed under said system. By that name all its business shall  
45 be transacted, its funds invested, warrants for money drawn, and  
46 payments made and all of its cash and securities and other property  
47 held.

1 r. "Veteran" means any [honorably discharged officer, soldier,  
2 sailor, airman, marine or nurse who served in any Army, Air Force  
3 or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War I between  
4 July 14, 1914, and November 11, 1918, or who served in any Army,  
5 Air Force or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War  
6 II, between September 1, 1939, and September 2, 1945, and who  
7 was inducted into such service through voluntary enlistment, and  
8 was a citizen of the United States at the time of such enlistment, and  
9 who did not, during or by reason of such service, renounce or lose  
10 United States citizenship, and any officer, soldier, sailor, marine,  
11 airman, nurse or army field clerk who has served in the active  
12 military or naval service of the United States] person who (1)  
13 served at least 90 days of active service in the Armed Forces of the  
14 United States, excluding any period of service for basic training or  
15 as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, or (2)  
16 served as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of  
17 the United States for an entire period for which called to federal  
18 active service, not including active duty for training, and has [or  
19 shall be] been discharged or released therefrom under conditions  
20 other than dishonorable[, in any of the following wars, uprisings,  
21 insurrections, expeditions or emergencies,] and who has presented  
22 to the [retirement system] Adjutant General of the Department of  
23 Military and Veterans' Affairs evidence of such record of service in  
24 form and content satisfactory to [said retirement system:

25 (1) The Indian wars and uprisings during any of the periods  
26 recognized by the War Department of the United States as periods  
27 of active hostility;

28 (2) The Spanish-American War between April 20, 1898, and  
29 April 11, 1899;

30 (3) The Philippine insurrections and expeditions during the  
31 periods recognized by the War Department of the United States as  
32 of active hostility from February 4, 1899, to the end of 1913;

33 (4) The Peking relief expedition between June 20, 1900, and  
34 May 27, 1902;

35 (5) The army of Cuban occupation between July 18, 1898, and  
36 May 20, 1902;

37 (6) The army of Cuban pacification between October 6, 1906,  
38 and April 1, 1909;

39 (7) The Mexican punitive expedition between March 14, 1916,  
40 and February 7, 1917;

41 (8) The Mexican border patrol, having actually participated in  
42 engagements against Mexicans between April 12, 1911, and June  
43 16, 1919;

44 (9) World War I, between April 6, 1917, and November 11,  
45 1918;

46 (10) World War II, between September 16, 1940, and December  
47 31, 1946, who shall have served at least 90 days in such active

1 service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a course of  
2 education or training under the Army Specialized Training Program  
3 or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a  
4 continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or  
5 (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, any  
6 part of which 90 days was served between said dates; provided that  
7 any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability  
8 shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has  
9 completed the 90-day service as herein provided;

10 (11) Korean conflict on or after June 23, 1950, and on or prior to  
11 January 31, 1955, who shall have served at least 90 days in such  
12 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a  
13 course of education or training under the Army Specialized  
14 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which  
15 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to  
16 completion, or (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service  
17 academies, any part of which 90 days was served between said  
18 dates; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred  
19 injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that  
20 person has completed the 90-day service as herein provided; and  
21 provided further that any member classed as a veteran pursuant to  
22 this subsection prior to August 1, 1966, shall continue to be classed  
23 as a veteran, whether or not that person completed the 90-day  
24 service between said dates as herein provided;

25 (12) Lebanon crisis, on or after July 1, 1958, who has served in  
26 Lebanon or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the  
27 territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the  
28 aggregate, of at least 14 days commencing on or before November  
29 1, 1958 or the date of termination of that conflict, as proclaimed by  
30 the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
31 termination is the latest, in such active service; provided, that any  
32 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall  
33 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the  
34 14 days' service as herein provided;

35 (13) Vietnam conflict, on or after December 31, 1960, and on or  
36 prior to May 7, 1975, who shall have served at least 90 days in such  
37 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a  
38 course of education or training under the Army Specialized  
39 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which  
40 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to  
41 completion, or (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service  
42 academies, any part of which 90 days was served between said  
43 dates; and exclusive of any service performed pursuant to the  
44 provisions of section 511(d) of Title 10, United States Code,  
45 pursuant to an enlistment in the Army National Guard or as a  
46 reserve for service in the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force  
47 Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve; provided  
48 that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or

1 disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person  
2 has completed the 90-day service as herein provided;

3 (14) Lebanon peacekeeping mission, on or after September 26,  
4 1982, who has served in Lebanon or on board any ship actively  
5 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
6 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
7 commencing on or before December 1, 1987 or the date of  
8 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
9 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
10 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
11 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
12 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
13 service as herein provided;

14 (15) Grenada peacekeeping mission, on or after October 23,  
15 1983, who has served in Grenada or on board any ship actively  
16 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
17 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
18 commencing on or before November 21, 1983 or the date of  
19 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
20 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
21 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
22 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
23 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
24 service as herein provided;

25 (16) Panama peacekeeping mission, on or after December 20,  
26 1989 or the date of inception of that mission, as proclaimed by the  
27 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
28 inception is earliest, who has served in Panama or on board any ship  
29 actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for  
30 a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
31 commencing on or before January 31, 1990 or the date of  
32 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
33 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
34 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
35 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
36 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
37 service as herein provided;

38 (17) Operation "Desert Shield/Desert Storm" mission in the  
39 Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, on or after August 2, 1990  
40 or the date of inception of that operation, as proclaimed by the  
41 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
42 inception is earliest, who has served in the Arabian peninsula or on  
43 board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the Persian Gulf for a  
44 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
45 commencing on or before the date of termination of that mission, as  
46 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,  
47 whichever date of termination is the latest, in such active service;  
48 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury

1 or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person  
2 has completed the 14 days' service as herein provided;

3 (18) Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch,  
4 on or after August 27, 1992, or the date of inception of that  
5 operation, as proclaimed by the President of the United States,  
6 Congress or United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of  
7 inception is earliest, who served in the theater of operation,  
8 including in the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, and in  
9 direct support of that operation for a period, continuously or in the  
10 aggregate, of at least 14 days in such active service, commencing on  
11 or before the date of termination of the operation, as proclaimed by  
12 the President of the United States, Congress or United States  
13 Secretary of Defense, whichever date of termination is latest;  
14 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury  
15 or disability while engaged in such service shall be classed as a  
16 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
17 service as herein provided;

18 (19) Operation "Restore Hope" in Somalia, on or after  
19 December 5, 1992, or the date of inception of that operation as  
20 proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress,  
21 whichever date is earliest, who has served in Somalia or on board  
22 any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that  
23 nation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least 14  
24 days in such active service commencing on or before March 31,  
25 1994; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred  
26 injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that  
27 person has completed the 14-day service as herein provided;

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

39 (21) Operation "Enduring Freedom", on or after September 11,  
40 2001, who served in a theater of operation and in direct support of  
41 that operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at  
42 least 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the  
43 date the President of the United States or the United States  
44 Secretary of Defense designates as the termination date of that  
45 operation; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-  
46 incurred injury or disability while engaged in such service shall be  
47 classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14  
48 days' service as herein provided; and

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

13 A person who served fewer than 90 days of active service or who  
14 served less than the entire period to which called to active service  
15 shall be classed as a veteran if that person has been discharged or  
16 released under conditions other than dishonorable as a result of a  
17 service-connected disability incurred a result of such service.

18 "Veteran" also means any honorably discharged member of the  
19 American Merchant Marine who served during World War II and is  
20 declared by the United States Department of Defense to be eligible  
21 for federal veterans' benefits.

22 s. "Child" means a deceased member's unmarried child either  
23 (a) under the age of 18 or (b) of any age who, at the time of the  
24 member's death, is disabled because of mental retardation or  
25 physical incapacity, is unable to do any substantial, gainful work  
26 because of the impairment and the impairment has lasted or can be  
27 expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months,  
28 as affirmed by the medical board.

29 t. (1) "Widower," for employees of the State, means the man to  
30 whom a member was married, or a domestic partner as defined in  
31 section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-3), at least five years before  
32 the date of her death and to whom she continued to be married or a  
33 domestic partner until the date of her death and who was receiving  
34 at least one-half of his support from the member in the 12-month  
35 period immediately preceding the member's death or the accident  
36 which was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency  
37 of such a widower will be considered terminated by marriage of, or  
38 establishment of a domestic partnership by, the widower subsequent  
39 to the death of the member. In the event of the payment of an  
40 accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification shall be waived.

41 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3) of this subsection,  
42 "widower," for employees of public employers other than the State,  
43 means the man to whom a member was married at least five years  
44 before the date of her death and to whom she continued to be  
45 married until the date of her death and who was receiving at least  
46 one-half of his support from the member in the 12-month period  
47 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
48 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of such

1 a widower shall be considered terminated by marriage of the  
2 widower subsequent to the death of the member. In the event of the  
3 payment of an accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification  
4 shall be waived.

5 (3) A public employer other than the State may adopt a  
6 resolution providing that the term "widower" as defined in  
7 paragraph (2) of this subsection shall include domestic partners as  
8 provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

9 u. (1) "Widow," for employees of the State, means the woman  
10 to whom a member was married, or a domestic partner as defined in  
11 section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-3), at least five years before  
12 the date of his death and to whom he continued to be married or a  
13 domestic partner until the date of his death and who was receiving  
14 at least one-half of her support from the member in the 12-month  
15 period immediately preceding the member's death or the accident  
16 which was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency  
17 of such a widow will be considered terminated by the marriage of,  
18 or establishment of a domestic partnership by, the widow  
19 subsequent to the member's death. In the event of the payment of an  
20 accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification shall be waived.

21 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3) of this subsection,  
22 "widow," for employees of public employers other than the State,  
23 means the woman to whom a member was married at least five  
24 years before the date of his death and to whom he continued to be  
25 married until the date of his death and who was receiving at least  
26 one-half of her support from the member in the 12-month period  
27 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
28 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of such  
29 a widow shall be considered terminated by the marriage of the  
30 widow subsequent to the member's death. In the event of the  
31 payment of an accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification  
32 shall be waived.

33 (3) A public employer other than the State may adopt a  
34 resolution providing that the term "widower" as defined in  
35 paragraph (2) of this subsection shall include domestic partners as  
36 provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

37 v. "Parent" means the parent of a member who was receiving at  
38 least one-half of the parent's support from the member in the 12-  
39 month period immediately preceding the member's death or the  
40 accident which was the direct cause of the member's death. The  
41 dependency of such a parent will be considered terminated by  
42 marriage of the parent subsequent to the death of the member.

43 w. "Medical board" means the board of physicians provided for  
44 in N.J.S.18A:66-56.

45 x. (1) "Spouse," for employees of the State, means the husband  
46 or wife, or domestic partner as defined in section 3 of P.L.2003,  
47 c.246 (C.26:8A-3), of a member.

1 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection,  
2 "spouse," for employees of public employers other than the State,  
3 means the husband or wife of a member.

4 (3) A public employer other than the State may adopt a  
5 resolution providing that the term "spouse" as defined in paragraph  
6 (2) of this subsection shall include domestic partners as provided in  
7 paragraph (1) of this subsection.

8 (cf: P.L.2010, c.1, s.20)

9

10 5. N.J.S.18A:66-13 is amended to read as follows:

11 18A:66-13. Prior service credit. A member may file a detailed  
12 statement of: a. school service and service in a similar capacity in  
13 other states and in schools within and outside the United States  
14 operated by a department of the United States Government for the  
15 instruction of the children of United States Government officers and  
16 employees, or b. other public employment in other states or with the  
17 United States Government which would be eligible for credit in a  
18 State-administered retirement system if the employment was with a  
19 public employer in this State, or c. **【military service】** active service  
20 in the Armed Forces of the United States or in a reserve component  
21 thereof, rendered prior to becoming a member, for which the  
22 member desires credit, and of such other facts as the retirement  
23 system may require. The member may purchase credit for all or a  
24 portion of the service evidenced in the statement up to the nearest  
25 number of years and months, but not exceeding 10 years, provided  
26 however, that a member purchasing that maximum credit may  
27 purchase up to five additional years **【for additional military】** of  
28 active service 【qualifying the member as a veteran as defined in  
29 N.J.S.18A:66-2】 in the Armed Forces of the United States or a  
30 reserve component thereof. No application shall be accepted for the  
31 purchase of credit for **【such】**: (1) a period of service if, at the time  
32 of application, the member has a vested right to retirement benefits  
33 in another retirement system based in whole or in part upon that  
34 service; or (2) a period of active service in a reserve component of  
35 the Armed Forces of the United States that is concurrent with other  
36 service described in subsections a. and b. of this section.

37 The member may purchase credit for the service by paying into  
38 the annuity savings fund the amount required by applying the  
39 factor, supplied by the actuary as being applicable to the member's  
40 age at the time of the purchase, to the member's salary at that time,  
41 or to the highest annual compensation for service in this State for  
42 which contributions were made during any prior fiscal year of  
43 membership, whichever is greater. The purchase may be made in  
44 regular installments, equal to at least one-half the full normal  
45 contribution to the retirement system, over a maximum period of 10  
46 years. Neither the State nor the employer of a member who applies  
47 to purchase credit for public employment with the United States  
48 Government pursuant to subsection b. of this section or for military



1 service pursuant to subsection c. of this section shall be liable for  
2 any payment to the retirement system on behalf of the member for  
3 the purchase of this credit.

4 Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, a  
5 member shall not be liable for any costs associated with the  
6 financing of pension adjustment benefits and health care benefits  
7 for retirees when purchasing credit for school service, public  
8 employment in other states or with the United States Government,  
9 or **【military】** active service in the Armed Forces of the United  
10 States or a reserve component thereof.

11 Any member electing to purchase the service who retires prior to  
12 completing payments as agreed with the retirement system will  
13 receive pro rata credit for service purchased prior to the date of  
14 retirement, but if the member so elects at the time of retirement, the  
15 member may make the additional lump sum payment required at  
16 that time to provide full credit.

17 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,  
18 service credit established in the retirement system by a member  
19 through purchase in accordance with this section, which purchase  
20 was made by an application submitted on or after the effective date  
21 of P.L.2008, c.89, except a purchase for **【military】** active service in  
22 the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve component  
23 thereof, shall not be eligible for consideration when service is used  
24 to determine the qualification of the member for any health care  
25 benefits coverage paid, in whole or in part, by a public employer  
26 after the member's retirement.

27 (cf: P.L.2008, c.89, s.3)

28

29 6. Section 6 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-6) is amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 6. As used in this act:

32 a. "Accumulated deductions" means the sum of all the  
33 amounts, deducted from the compensation of a member or  
34 contributed by or on behalf of the member, standing to the credit of  
35 the member's individual account in the annuity savings fund.

36 b. "Annuity" means payments for life derived from the  
37 accumulated deductions of a member as provided in this act.

38 c. "Annuity reserve" means the present value of all payments  
39 to be made on account of any annuity or benefit in lieu of an  
40 annuity, granted under the provisions of this act, computed on the  
41 basis of such mortality tables recommended by the actuary as the  
42 board of trustees adopts, with regular interest.

43 d. "Beneficiary" means any person receiving a retirement  
44 allowance or other benefit as provided in this act.

45 e. "Child" means a deceased member's unmarried child either  
46 (1) under the age of 18 or (2) of any age who, at the time of the  
47 member's death, is disabled because of an intellectual disability or  
48 physical incapacity, is unable to do any substantial, gainful work

1 because of the impairment and the impairment has lasted or can be  
2 expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months,  
3 as affirmed by the medical board.

4 f. "Parent" shall mean the parent of a member who was  
5 receiving at least 1/2 of the parent's support from the member in the  
6 12-month period immediately preceding the member's death or the  
7 accident which was the direct cause of the member's death. The  
8 dependency of such a parent will be considered terminated by  
9 marriage of the parent subsequent to the death of the member.

10 g. (1) "Widower," for employees of the State, means the man  
11 to whom a member was married, or a domestic partner as defined in  
12 section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-3), at least five years before  
13 the date of her death and to whom she continued to be married or a  
14 domestic partner until the date of her death and who was receiving  
15 at least 1/2 of his support from the member in the 12-month period  
16 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
17 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of  
18 such a widower will be considered terminated by marriage of, or  
19 establishment of a domestic partnership by, the widower subsequent  
20 to the death of the member. In the event of the payment of an  
21 accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification shall be waived.

22 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3) of this subsection,  
23 "widower," for employees of public employers other than the State,  
24 means the man to whom a member was married at least five years  
25 before the date of her death and to whom she continued to be  
26 married until the date of her death and who was receiving at least  
27 1/2 of his support from the member in the 12-month period  
28 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
29 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of such  
30 a widower shall be considered terminated by marriage of the  
31 widower subsequent to the death of the member. In the event of the  
32 payment of an accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification  
33 shall be waived.

34 (3) A public employer other than the State may adopt a  
35 resolution providing that the term "widower" as defined in  
36 paragraph (2) of this subsection shall include domestic partners as  
37 provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

38 h. (1) "Final compensation" means the average annual  
39 compensation for which contributions are made for the three years  
40 of creditable service in New Jersey immediately preceding the  
41 member's retirement or death, or it shall mean the average annual  
42 compensation for New Jersey service for which contributions are  
43 made during any three fiscal years of his or her membership  
44 providing the largest possible benefit to the member or the  
45 member's beneficiary.

46 (2) In the case of a person who becomes a member of the  
47 retirement system on or after the effective date of P.L.2010, c.1,  
48 "final compensation" means the average annual compensation for

1 which contributions are made for the five years of creditable service  
2 in New Jersey immediately preceding the member's retirement or  
3 death, or it shall mean the average annual compensation for New  
4 Jersey service for which contributions are made during any five  
5 fiscal years of his or her membership providing the largest possible  
6 benefit to the member or the member's beneficiary.

7 i. "Fiscal year" means any year commencing with July 1 and  
8 ending with June 30 next following.

9 j. "Medical board" shall mean the board of physicians  
10 provided for in section 17 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-17).

11 k. "Pension" means payments for life derived from  
12 appropriations made by the employer as provided in this act.

13 l. "Pension reserve" means the present value of all payments to  
14 be made on account of any pension or benefit in lieu of a pension  
15 granted under the provisions of this act, computed on the basis of  
16 such mortality tables recommended by the actuary as the board of  
17 trustees adopts, with regular interest.

18 m. "Public Employees' Retirement System of New Jersey,"  
19 hereinafter referred to as the "retirement system" or "system," is the  
20 corporate name of the arrangement for the payment of retirement  
21 allowances and other benefits under the provisions of this act  
22 including the several funds placed under said system. By that name  
23 all of its business shall be transacted, its funds invested, warrants  
24 for money drawn, and payments made and all of its cash and  
25 securities and other property held.

26 n. "Regular interest" shall mean interest as determined by the  
27 State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the  
28 Divisions of Investment and Pensions, the board of trustees and the  
29 actuary. It shall bear a reasonable relationship to the percentage rate  
30 of earnings on investments based on the market value of the assets  
31 but shall not exceed the assumed percentage rate of increase applied  
32 to salaries plus 3%, provided however that the board of trustees  
33 shall not set the average percentage rate of increase applied to  
34 salaries below 6%.

35 o. "Retirement allowance" means the pension plus the annuity.

36 p. "Veteran" means any [honorably discharged officer, soldier,  
37 sailor, airman, marine or nurse who served in any Army, Air Force  
38 or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War I, between  
39 July 14, 1914, and November 11, 1918, or who served in any Army,  
40 Air Force or Navy of the Allies of the United States in World War  
41 II, between September 1, 1939, and September 2, 1945, and who  
42 was inducted into such service through voluntary enlistment, and  
43 was a citizen of the United States at the time of such enlistment, and  
44 who did not, during or by reason of such service, renounce or lose  
45 United States citizenship, and any officer, soldier, sailor, marine,  
46 airman, nurse or army field clerk, who has served in the active  
47 military or naval service of the United States] person who (1)  
48 served at least 90 days of active service in the Armed Forces of the

1 United States, excluding any period of service for basic training or  
2 as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, or (2)  
3 served as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of  
4 the United States for an entire period for which called to federal  
5 active service, not including active duty for training, and has [or  
6 shall be] been discharged or released therefrom under conditions  
7 other than dishonorable[, in any of the following wars, uprisings,  
8 insurrections, expeditions, or emergencies,] and who has presented  
9 to the [retirement system] Adjutant General of the Department of  
10 Military and Veterans' Affairs evidence of such record of service in  
11 form and content satisfactory to [said retirement system:

12 (1) The Indian wars and uprisings during any of the periods  
13 recognized by the War Department of the United States as periods  
14 of active hostility;

15 (2) The Spanish-American War between April 20, 1898, and  
16 April 11, 1899;

17 (3) The Philippine insurrections and expeditions during the  
18 periods recognized by the War Department of the United States as  
19 of active hostility from February 4, 1899, to the end of 1913;

20 (4) The Peking relief expedition between June 20, 1900, and  
21 May 27, 1902;

22 (5) The army of Cuban occupation between July 18, 1898, and  
23 May 20, 1902;

24 (6) The army of Cuban pacification between October 6, 1906,  
25 and April 1, 1909;

26 (7) The Mexican punitive expedition between March 14, 1916,  
27 and February 7, 1917;

28 (8) The Mexican border patrol, having actually participated in  
29 engagements against Mexicans between April 12, 1911, and June  
30 16, 1919;

31 (9) World War I, between April 6, 1917, and November 11,  
32 1918;

33 (10) World War II, between September 16, 1940, and December  
34 31, 1946, who shall have served at least 90 days in such active  
35 service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a course of  
36 education or training under the Army Specialized Training Program  
37 or the Navy College Training Program which course was a  
38 continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or  
39 (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies any  
40 part of which 90 days was served between said dates; provided, that  
41 any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability  
42 shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has  
43 completed the 90-day service as herein provided;

44 (11) Korean conflict on or after June 23, 1950, and on or prior to  
45 January 31, 1955, who shall have served at least 90 days in such  
46 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a  
47 course of education or training under the Army Specialized

1 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program which  
2 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to  
3 completion, or (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service  
4 academies, any part of which 90 days was served between said  
5 dates; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred  
6 injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that  
7 person has completed the 90-day service as herein provided; and  
8 provided further, that any member classed as a veteran pursuant to  
9 this paragraph prior to August 1, 1966, shall continue to be classed  
10 as a veteran whether or not that person completed the 90-day  
11 service between said dates as herein provided;

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

22 (13) Vietnam conflict on or after December 31, 1960, and on or  
23 prior to May 7, 1975, who shall have served at least 90 days in such  
24 active service, exclusive of any period of assignment (1) for a  
25 course of education or training under the Army Specialized  
26 Training Program or the Navy College Training Program which  
27 course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to  
28 completion, or (2) as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service  
29 academies, any part of which 90 days was served between said  
30 dates; and exclusive of any service performed pursuant to the  
31 provisions of section 511(d) of Title 10, United States Code,  
32 pursuant to an enlistment in the Army National Guard or as a  
33 reserve for service in the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force  
34 Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve; provided,  
35 that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or  
36 disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person  
37 has completed the 90 days' service as herein provided;

38 (14) Lebanon peacekeeping mission, on or after September 26,  
39 1982, who has served in Lebanon or on board any ship actively  
40 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
41 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
42 commencing on or before December 1, 1987 or the date of  
43 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
44 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
45 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
46 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
47 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
48 service as herein provided;

1 (15) Grenada peacekeeping mission, on or after October 23,  
2 1983, who has served in Grenada or on board any ship actively  
3 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
4 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
5 commencing on or before November 21, 1983 or the date of  
6 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
7 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
8 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
9 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
10 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
11 service as herein provided;

12 (16) Panama peacekeeping mission, on or after December 20,  
13 1989 or the date of inception of that mission, as proclaimed by the  
14 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
15 inception is earliest, who has served in Panama or on board any ship  
16 actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for  
17 a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
18 commencing on or before January 31, 1990 or the date of  
19 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
20 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
21 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
22 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
23 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
24 service as herein provided;

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

38 (18) Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch,  
39 on or after August 27, 1992, or the date of inception of that  
40 operation, as proclaimed by the President of the United States,  
41 Congress or United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of  
42 inception is earliest, who served in the theater of operation,  
43 including in the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, and in  
44 direct support of that operation for a period, continuously or in the  
45 aggregate, of at least 14 days in such active service, commencing on  
46 or before the date of termination of that operation, as proclaimed by  
47 the President of the United States, Congress or United States  
48 Secretary of Defense, whichever date of termination is the latest;

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

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

15 (20) Operations "Joint Endeavor" and "Joint Guard" in the  
16 Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on or after November 20,  
17 1995, who served in such active service in direct support of one or  
18 both of the operations for at least 14 days, continuously or in the  
19 aggregate, commencing on or before June 20, 1998 and (1) was  
20 deployed in that nation or in another area in the region, or (2) was  
21 on board a United States naval vessel operating in the Adriatic Sea,  
22 or (3) operated in airspace above the Republic of Bosnia and  
23 Herzegovina; provided that any person receiving an actual service-  
24 incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or  
25 not that person completed the 14-day service requirement;

26 (21) Operation "Enduring Freedom", on or after September 11,  
27 2001, who served in a theater of operation and in direct support of  
28 that operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at  
29 least 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the  
30 date the President of the United States or the United States  
31 Secretary of Defense designates as the termination date of that  
32 operation; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-  
33 incurred injury or disability while engaged in such service shall be  
34 classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14  
35 days' service as herein provided; and

36 (22) Operation "Iraqi Freedom", on or after the date the  
37 President of the United States or the United States Secretary of  
38 Defense designates as the inception date of that operation, who  
39 served in Iraq or in another area in the region in direct support of  
40 that operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at  
41 least 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the  
42 date the President of the United States or the United States  
43 Secretary of Defense designates as the termination date of that  
44 operation; provided, that any person receiving an actual service-  
45 incurred injury or disability while engaged in such service shall be  
46 classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14  
47 days' service as herein provided.

1 "Veteran" also means any honorably discharged member of the  
2 American Merchant Marine who served during World War II and is  
3 declared by the United States Department of Defense to be eligible  
4 for federal veterans' benefits.] the Adjutant General.

5 A person who served fewer than 90 days of active service or who  
6 served less than the entire period to which called to active service  
7 shall be classed as a veteran if that person has been discharged or  
8 released under conditions other than dishonorable as a result of a  
9 service-connected disability incurred as a result of such service.

10 q. (1) "Widow," for employees of the State, means the woman  
11 to whom a member was married, or a domestic partner as defined in  
12 section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-3), at least five years before  
13 the date of his death and to whom he continued to be married or a  
14 domestic partner until the date of his death and who was receiving  
15 at least 1/2 of her support from the member in the 12-month period  
16 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
17 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of such  
18 a widow will be considered terminated by the marriage of, or  
19 establishment of a domestic partnership by, the widow subsequent  
20 to the member's death. In the event of the payment of an accidental  
21 death benefit, the five-year qualification shall be waived.

22 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3) of this subsection,  
23 "widow," for employees of public employers other than the State,  
24 means the woman to whom a member was married at least five  
25 years before the date of his death and to whom he continued to be  
26 married until the date of his death and who was receiving at least  
27 1/2 of her support from the member in the 12-month period  
28 immediately preceding the member's death or the accident which  
29 was the direct cause of the member's death. The dependency of  
30 such a widow shall be considered terminated by the marriage of the  
31 widow subsequent to the member's death. In the event of the  
32 payment of an accidental death benefit, the five-year qualification  
33 shall be waived.

34 (3) A public employer other than the State may adopt a  
35 resolution providing that the term "widow" as defined in paragraph  
36 (2) of this subsection shall include domestic partners as provided in  
37 paragraph (1) of this subsection.

38 r. (1) "Compensation" means the base or contractual salary,  
39 for services as an employee, which is in accordance with  
40 established salary policies of the member's employer for all  
41 employees in the same position but shall not include individual  
42 salary adjustments which are granted primarily in anticipation of  
43 the member's retirement or additional remuneration for performing  
44 temporary or extracurricular duties beyond the regular workday or  
45 the regular work year.

46 (2) In the case of a person who becomes a member of the  
47 retirement system on or after July 1, 2007, "compensation" means  
48 the amount of base or contractual salary equivalent to the annual



1 maximum wage contribution base for Social Security, pursuant to  
2 the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, for services as an  
3 employee, which is in accordance with established salary policies of  
4 the member's employer for all employees in the same position but  
5 shall not include individual salary adjustments which are granted  
6 primarily in anticipation of the member's retirement or additional  
7 remuneration for performing temporary or extracurricular duties  
8 beyond the regular workday or the regular work year. This  
9 paragraph shall not apply to a person who at the time of enrollment  
10 in the retirement system on or after July 1, 2007 transfers service  
11 credit from another State-administered retirement system pursuant  
12 to section 14 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-14), but shall apply to a  
13 former member of the retirement system who has been granted a  
14 retirement allowance and is reenrolled in the retirement system on  
15 or after July 1, 2007 pursuant to section 27 of P.L.1966, c.217  
16 (C.43:15A-57.2) after becoming employed again in a position that  
17 makes the person eligible to be a member of the retirement system.

18 In cases where salary includes maintenance, the retirement  
19 system shall fix the value of that part of the salary not paid in  
20 money which shall be considered under this act.

21 For the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011,  
22 "contractual salary" for State employees shall include across the  
23 board negotiated wage increases under a collective negotiations  
24 agreement that were payable to all State employees covered by that  
25 agreement notwithstanding that, by amendment to that collective  
26 negotiations agreement, the effective date of the contractual  
27 increase has been deferred. For the purpose of this paragraph,  
28 "State employee" means an employee in the Executive Branch or  
29 the Judicial Branch of State government of New Jersey or an  
30 employee of the State University authorized to participate in the  
31 system under subsection b. of section 73 of P.L.1954, c.84  
32 (C.43:15A-73), but shall not include employees of agencies  
33 authorized to participate in the system under subsections a., c., d.,  
34 e., f., and g. of section 73 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-73) or under  
35 P.L.1990, c.25 (C.43:15A-73.2 et al.).

36 For the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011,  
37 "contractual salary" for county and municipal employees shall  
38 include across the board negotiated wage increases under a  
39 collective negotiations agreement that were payable to all county or  
40 all municipal employees covered by that agreement notwithstanding  
41 that, by amendment to that collective negotiations agreement which  
42 has been filed with the Division of Pensions and Benefits, the  
43 effective date of the contractual increase has been deferred. For the  
44 purpose of this paragraph, "county and municipal employees"  
45 means all persons employed by a county or municipality in this  
46 State.

47 (cf: P.L.2010, c.50, s.71)

1       7. Section 4 of P.L.2001, c.127 (C.43:15A-24a) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       4. The State shall be liable for any increased cost to local  
4 government employers participating in the **【Public Employees'**  
5 **Retirement System, established pursuant to P.L.1954, c.84**  
6 **(C.43:15A-1 et seq.),】** retirement system as a result of the  
7 provisions of **【this act, P.L.2001, c.127】** P.L. , c. (pending  
8 before the Legislature as this bill).  
9 (cf: P.L.2001, c.127, s.4)

10

11       8. Section 2 of P.L.1963, c.19 (C.43:15A-73.1) is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13       2. A member may file a detailed statement of public  
14 employment in other states or with the United States Government  
15 which would be eligible for credit in a State-administered  
16 retirement system if the employment was with a public employer in  
17 this State, or of **【military】** active service in the Armed Forces of the  
18 United States or in a reserve component thereof, or of service  
19 resulting from initial appointment or employment on or after  
20 January 1, 2002 with a bi-state or multi-state agency established  
21 pursuant to an interstate compact to which the State is a party which  
22 would be eligible for credit in a State-administered retirement  
23 system if the employment was with a public employer in this State,  
24 rendered prior to becoming a member, for which the member  
25 desires credit, and of such other facts as the retirement system may  
26 require. The member may purchase credit for all or a portion of the  
27 service evidenced in the statement up to the nearest number of years  
28 and months, but not exceeding 10 years, provided however, that a  
29 member purchasing that maximum credit may purchase up to five  
30 additional years **【for additional military】** of active service  
31 **【qualifying the member as a veteran as defined in section 6 of**  
32 **P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-6)】** in the Armed Forces of the United  
33 States or a reserve component thereof. No application shall be  
34 accepted for the purchase of credit for **【the】**: (1) a period of service  
35 if, at the time of application, the member has a vested right to  
36 retirement benefits in another retirement system based in whole or  
37 in part upon that service; or (2) a period of active service in a  
38 reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States that is  
39 concurrent with other service described in the preceding paragraph.  
40 The member may purchase credit for the service by paying into the  
41 annuity savings fund the amount required by applying the factor,  
42 supplied by the actuary as being applicable to the member's age at  
43 the time of the purchase, to the member's salary at that time, or to  
44 the highest annual compensation for service in this State for which  
45 contributions were made during any prior fiscal year of  
46 membership, whichever is greater. The purchase may be made in  
47 regular installments, equal to at least 1/2 of the full normal

1 contribution to the retirement system, over a maximum period of 10  
2 years. The employer of a member who applies, pursuant to this  
3 section, to purchase credit for public employment with the United  
4 States Government or for **【military】** active service in the Armed  
5 Forces of the United States or a reserve component thereof shall not  
6 be liable for any payment to the retirement system on behalf of the  
7 member for the purchase of this credit.

8 Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, a  
9 member shall not be liable for any costs associated with the  
10 financing of pension adjustment benefits and health care benefits  
11 for retirees when purchasing credit for public employment in other  
12 states or with the United States Government or **【military】** active  
13 service in the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve  
14 component thereof or with a bi-state or multi-state agency.

15 Any member electing to make a purchase pursuant to this section  
16 who retires prior to completing payments as agreed with the  
17 retirement system will receive pro rata credit for the purchase prior  
18 to the date of retirement, but if the member so elects at the time of  
19 retirement, the member may make the additional lump sum payment  
20 required at that time to provide full credit.

21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,  
22 service credit established in the retirement system by a member  
23 through purchase in accordance with this section, which purchase  
24 was made by an application submitted on or after the effective date  
25 of P.L.2008, c.89, except a purchase for **【military】** active service in  
26 the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve component  
27 thereof, shall not be eligible for consideration when service is used  
28 to determine the qualification of the member for any health care  
29 benefits coverage paid, in whole or in part, by a public employer  
30 after the member's retirement.

31 (cf: P.L.2008, c.89, s.4)

32

33 9. Section 3 of P.L.1991, c.153 (C.43:16A-11.11) is amended  
34 to read as follows:

35 3. A member of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System  
36 may file a detailed statement of public employment in other states  
37 or with the United States Government which would be eligible for  
38 credit in a State-administered retirement system if the employment  
39 was with a public employer in this State, or of **【military service】**  
40 active service in the Armed Forces of the United States or in a  
41 reserve component thereof, rendered prior to becoming a member,  
42 for which the member desires credit, and of such other facts as the  
43 retirement system may require. The member may purchase credit  
44 for all or a portion of the service evidenced in the statement up to  
45 the nearest number of years and months, but not exceeding 10  
46 years, provided however, that a member purchasing that maximum  
47 credit may purchase up to five additional years **【for additional**  
48 **military】** of active service **【qualifying the member as a veteran as**

1 defined in section 1 of P.L.1983, c.391 (C.43:16A-11.7) **in the**  
2 Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve component thereof.  
3 No application shall be accepted for the purchase of credit for  
4 **the**: (1) a period of service if, at the time of application, the  
5 member has a vested right to retirement benefits in another  
6 retirement system based in whole or in part upon that service; or (2)  
7 a period of active service in a reserve component of the Armed  
8 Forces of the United States that is concurrent with other service  
9 described in the preceding paragraph.

10 The member may purchase credit for the service by paying into  
11 the annuity savings fund the amount required by applying the  
12 factor, supplied by the actuary as being applicable to the member's  
13 age at the time of the purchase, to the member's salary at that time,  
14 or to the highest annual compensation for service in this State for  
15 which contributions were made during any prior fiscal year of  
16 membership, whichever is greater. The purchase may be made in  
17 regular installments equal to at least 1/2 of the full normal  
18 contribution to the retirement system, over a maximum period of 10  
19 years. The employer of a member who applies, pursuant to this  
20 section, to purchase credit for public employment with the United  
21 States Government or for military service in the Armed Forces of  
22 the United States shall not be liable for any payment to the  
23 retirement system on behalf of the member for the purchase of this  
24 credit.

25 Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, a  
26 member shall not be liable for any costs associated with the  
27 financing of pension adjustment benefits and health care benefits  
28 for retirees when purchasing credit for public employment in other  
29 states or with the United States Government or **military** active  
30 service in the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve  
31 component thereof.

32 Any member electing to purchase the service who retires prior to  
33 completing payments as agreed with the retirement system will  
34 receive pro rata credit for service purchased prior to the date of  
35 retirement, but if the member so elects at the time of retirement, the  
36 member may make the additional lump sum payment required at  
37 that time to provide full credit.

38 (cf: P.L.1991, c.153, s.3)

39

40 10. Section 1 of P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30) is amended to  
41 read as follows:

42 1. a. The dwelling house and the lot or curtilage whereon the  
43 same is erected, of any **citizen and** resident of this State, **now or**  
44 **hereafter** honorably discharged or released under honorable  
45 circumstances **.,** from **active service, in time of war, in any**  
46 **branch of** the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve  
47 component thereof, who has been **or shall be** declared by the

1 United States [Veterans Administration] Department of Veterans'  
2 Affairs or its successor to have a service-connected [disability from  
3 paraplegia, sarcoidosis, osteochondritis resulting in permanent loss  
4 of the use of both legs, or permanent paralysis of both legs and  
5 lower parts of the body, or from hemiplegia and has permanent  
6 paralysis of one leg and one arm or either side of the body, resulting  
7 from injury to the spinal cord, skeletal structure, or brain or from  
8 disease of the spinal cord not resulting from any form of syphilis; or  
9 from total blindness; or from amputation of both arms or both legs,  
10 or both hands or both feet, or the combination of a hand and a foot;  
11 or from other service-connected disability declared by the United  
12 States Veterans Administration or its successor to be a total or]  
13 100% total and permanent disability [, and not so evaluated solely  
14 because of hospitalization or surgery and recuperation, sustained  
15 through enemy action, or accident, or resulting from disease  
16 contracted while in such active service,] shall be exempt from  
17 taxation, on proper claim made therefor [, and such]. An exemption  
18 under this act, P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30 et seq.), shall be in  
19 addition to any other exemption of such person's real [and  
20 personal] property which [now] is [or hereafter shall be]  
21 prescribed or allowed by the Constitution or by law but no taxpayer  
22 shall be allowed more than one exemption under this act.

23 b. (1) The surviving spouse of any such [citizen and] resident  
24 of this State, who at the time of death was entitled to the exemption  
25 provided under this act, shall be entitled, on proper claim made  
26 therefor, to the same exemption [as the deceased had], during the  
27 surviving spouse's widowhood or widowerhood [, as the case may  
28 be,] and while a resident of this State, [for the time] provided that  
29 the surviving spouse is the legal owner [thereof and actually  
30 occupies the said] and occupant of the dwelling house [or any other  
31 dwelling house thereafter acquired] for which the exemption is  
32 claimed.

33 (2) The surviving spouse of any [citizen and] resident of this  
34 State who was honorably discharged and, after the [citizen and]  
35 resident's death, is declared to have suffered a service-connected  
36 disability as provided in subsection a. of this section, shall be  
37 entitled, on proper claim made therefor, to the same exemption the  
38 deceased would have become eligible for. The exemption shall  
39 continue during the surviving spouse's widowhood or widowerhood  
40 [, as the case may be,] and while a resident of this State, [for the  
41 time] provided that the surviving spouse is the legal owner [thereof  
42 and actually occupies] and occupant of the dwelling house [or any  
43 other dwelling house thereafter acquired] for which the exemption  
44 is claimed.

45 c. The surviving spouse of any [citizen and] resident of this  
46 State, who died in active service in [time of war in any branch of]

1 the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve component  
2 thereof as a result of a service-connected injury or disease, shall be  
3 entitled, on proper claim made therefor, to an exemption from  
4 taxation on the dwelling house and lot or curtilage whereon the  
5 same is erected, during the surviving spouse's widowhood or  
6 widowerhood **【, as the case may be,】** and while a resident of this  
7 State, **【for the time】** provided that the surviving spouse is the legal  
8 owner **【thereof and actually occupies the said dwelling or any**  
9 **other】** and occupant of the dwelling house **【thereafter acquired】** for  
10 which the exemption is claimed.

11 d. The surviving spouse of any citizen and resident of this State  
12 who died prior to **【January 10, 1972, that being】** the effective date  
13 of **【P.L.1971, c.398】** P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
14 Legislature as this bill), and whose circumstances were such that,  
15 had said law become effective during the deceased's lifetime, the  
16 deceased would have become eligible for the exemption granted  
17 under this section as amended by said law, shall be entitled, on  
18 proper claim made therefor, to the same exemption **【as the deceased**  
19 **would have become eligible for upon the dwelling house and lot or**  
20 **curtilage occupied by the deceased at the time of death,】** during the  
21 surviving spouse's widowhood or widowerhood **【, as the case may**  
22 **be,】** and while a resident of this State, **【for the time】** provided that  
23 the surviving spouse is the legal owner **【thereof and actually**  
24 **occupies the said】** and occupant of the dwelling house **【on the**  
25 **premises to be exempted】** for which the exemption is claimed.

26 e. **【Nothing in this act shall be intended to include paraplegia**  
27 **or hemiplegia resulting from locomotor ataxia or other forms of**  
28 **syphilis of the central nervous system, or from chronic alcoholism,**  
29 **or to include other forms of disease resulting from the veteran's own**  
30 **misconduct which may produce signs and symptoms similar to**  
31 **those resulting from paraplegia, osteochondritis, or hemiplegia】**  
32 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the  
33 Legislature as this bill).

34 (cf: P.L.2007, c.317, s.1)

35  
36 11. Section 2 of P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.31) is amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 2. **【All exemptions from taxation under P.L.1948, c.259**  
39 **(C.54:4-3.30 et seq.) shall be allowed by the assessor upon the**  
40 **filing with him of a claim in writing under oath, made by or on**  
41 **behalf of the person claiming the same, showing the right to the**  
42 **exemption, briefly describing】** A municipal tax assessor shall allow  
43 an exemption under section 1 of P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30) to a  
44 claimant when the claimant, or a person acting on behalf of the  
45 claimant, files with the assessor a claim in writing under oath that  
46 contains: (1) a brief description of the property for which exemption

1 is claimed **【and having annexed thereto】** ; (2) a certificate of the  
2 claimant's honorable discharge or release under honorable  
3 circumstances **【,】** from active service **【, in time of war,】** in **【any**  
4 **branch of the armed forces】** the Armed Forces of the United States  
5 or a reserve component thereof; and (3) a certificate from the  
6 United States **【Veterans Administration】** Department of Veterans'  
7 Affairs or its successor, certifying to a service-connected disability  
8 of **【such】** the claimant of the character described in section 1 of  
9 P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30). In the case of a claim by a surviving  
10 spouse of such veteran, the claimant shall establish in writing under  
11 oath that (1) the claimant is the owner of the legal title to the  
12 premises on which exemption is claimed; (2) that the claimant  
13 occupies the dwelling house on said premises as the claimant's legal  
14 residence in this State; (3) that the veteran **【shall have been】** was  
15 declared, either during the veteran's lifetime or after the veteran's  
16 death, by the United States **【Veterans Administration】** Department  
17 of Veterans' Affairs to have or to have had a service-connected  
18 disability of a character described in **【this act】** section 1 of  
19 P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30), or, in the case of a claim for an  
20 exemption under subsection c. of **【section 1 of P.L.1948, c.259**  
21 **(C.54:4-3.30)】** that section, that the veteran **【shall have been】** was  
22 declared to have died in active service **【in time of war】**; (4) that the  
23 veteran was entitled to an exemption provided **【for in this act】**  
24 under section 1 of P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30), except for an  
25 exemption under paragraph (2) of subsection b. and subsection c. or  
26 d. of section 1 **【hereof】** of that section, at the time of death; and (5)  
27 that the claimant is a resident of this State and has not remarried.  
28 **【Such exemptions】** Exemptions provided for under section 1 of  
29 P.L.1948, c.259 (C.54:4-3.30 et seq.) shall be allowed and prorated  
30 by the assessor for the remainder of any taxable year from the date  
31 the claimant shall have acquired title to the real property intended to  
32 be exempt by this act. Where a portion of a multiple-family  
33 building or structure occupied by the claimant is the subject of such  
34 exemption, the assessor shall aggregate the assessment on the lot or  
35 curtilage and building or structure and allow an exemption of that  
36 percentage of the aggregate assessment as the value of the portion  
37 of the building or structure occupied by the claimant bears to the  
38 value of the entire building or structure.

39 (cf: P.L.2007, c.317, s.2)

40

41 12. Section 1 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.10) is amended to  
42 read as follows:

43 1. (a) **【"Active service in time of war" means active service at**  
44 **some time during one of the following periods:**

45 Operation "Iraqi Freedom", on or after the date the President of  
46 the United States or the United States Secretary of Defense  
47 designates as the inception date of that operation, who served in

1 Iraq or in another area in the region in direct support of that  
2 operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least  
3 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the date the  
4 President of the United States or the United States Secretary of  
5 Defense designates as the termination date of that operation;  
6 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury  
7 or disability while engaged in such service shall be classed as a  
8 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
9 service as herein provided;

10 Operation "Enduring Freedom", on or after September 11, 2001,  
11 who served in a theater of operation and in direct support of that  
12 operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least  
13 14 days in such active service commencing on or before the date the  
14 President of the United States or the United States Secretary of  
15 Defense designates as the termination date of that operation;  
16 provided, that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury  
17 or disability while engaged in such service shall be classed as a  
18 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
19 service as herein provided;

20 Operation "Restore Hope" in Somalia, on or after December 5,  
21 1992, or the date of inception of that operation as proclaimed by the  
22 President of the United States or Congress, whichever date is  
23 earliest, who has served in Somalia or on board any ship actively  
24 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
25 period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days in such  
26 active service commencing on or before March 31, 1994; provided  
27 that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or  
28 disability shall be classed as a veteran whether or not that person  
29 has completed the 14-day service as herein provided;

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

41 Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch, on or  
42 after August 27, 1992, or the date of inception of that operation, as  
43 proclaimed by the President of the United States, Congress or  
44 United States Secretary of Defense, whichever date of inception is  
45 earliest, who served in the theater of operation, including in the  
46 Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, and in direct support of that  
47 operation for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least  
48 14 days in such active service, commencing on or before the date of



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

7 Operation "Desert Shield/Desert Storm" mission in the Arabian  
8 peninsula and the Persian Gulf, on or after August 2, 1990 or the  
9 date of inception of that operation, as proclaimed by the President  
10 of the United States or Congress, whichever date of inception is  
11 earliest, who has served in the Arabian peninsula or on board any  
12 ship actively engaged in patrolling the Persian Gulf for a period,  
13 continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days commencing on  
14 or before the date of termination of that mission, as proclaimed by  
15 the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
16 termination is the latest, in such active service; provided, that any  
17 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall  
18 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the  
19 14 days' service as herein provided;

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

33 The Grenada peacekeeping mission, on or after October 23,  
34 1983, who has served in Grenada or on board any ship actively  
35 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
36 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
37 commencing on or before November 21, 1983 or the date of  
38 termination of that mission as proclaimed by the President of the  
39 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
40 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
41 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
42 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
43 service as herein provided;

44 The Lebanon peacekeeping mission, on or after September 26,  
45 1982, who has served in Lebanon or on board any ship actively  
46 engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a  
47 period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days  
48 commencing on or before December 1, 1987 or the date of

1 termination of that mission, as proclaimed by the President of the  
2 United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is the  
3 latest, in such active service; provided, that any person receiving an  
4 actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a  
5 veteran whether or not that person has completed the 14 days'  
6 service as herein provided;

7 The Vietnam conflict, December 31, 1960, to May 7, 1975;

8 The Lebanon crisis, on or after July 1, 1958, who has served in  
9 Lebanon or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the  
10 territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the  
11 aggregate, of at least 14 days commencing on or before November  
12 1, 1958 or the date of termination of that conflict, as proclaimed by  
13 the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of  
14 termination is the latest, in such active service; provided, that any  
15 person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall  
16 be classed as a veteran whether or not that person has completed the  
17 14 days' service as herein provided;

18 The Korean conflict, June 23, 1950 to January 31, 1955;

19 World War II, September 16, 1940 to December 31, 1946;

20 World War I, April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918, and in the  
21 case of service with the United States military forces in Russia,  
22 April 6, 1917 to April 1, 1920;

23 Spanish-American War, April 21, 1898 to August 13, 1898;

24 Civil War, April 15, 1861 to May 26, 1865; or, as to any  
25 subsequent war, during the period from the date of declaration of  
26 war to the date on which actual hostilities shall cease **】** (Deleted by  
27 amendment, P.L. , c. ) (pending before the Legislature as this  
28 bill).

29 (b) "Assessor" means the assessor, board of assessors or any  
30 other official or body of a taxing district charged with the duty of  
31 assessing real and personal property for the purpose of general  
32 taxation.

33 (c) "Collector" means the collector or receiver of taxes of a  
34 taxing district.

35 (d) "Honorably discharged or released under honorable  
36 circumstances **】**from active service in time of war,**】**" means **【**and  
37 includes**】** every form of separation from active **【**, full-time duty  
38 with military or naval pay and allowances in some branch of the**】**  
39 service in the Armed Forces of the United States **【**in time of war**】**  
40 or from military service in a reserve component thereof, other than  
41 those marked "dishonorable," "undesirable," "bad conduct," "by  
42 sentence of general court martial," "by sentence of summary court  
43 martial" or similar expression indicating that the discharge or  
44 release was not under honorable circumstances. **【A】** "Honorably  
45 discharged or released under honorable circumstances" shall not  
46 include a disenrollment certificate or other form of release  
47 terminating temporary service in **【**a military or naval branch of the

1 armed forces] the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve  
2 component thereof rendered on a voluntary and part-time basis  
3 without pay, or a release from or deferment of induction into [the]  
4 active [military or naval] service [shall not be deemed to be  
5 included in the aforementioned phrase] of the Armed Forces of the  
6 United States, or military service in a reserve component thereof.

7 (e) "Pre-tax year" means the particular calendar year  
8 immediately preceding the "tax year."

9 (f) "Resident" means one legally domiciled within the State of  
10 New Jersey. Mere seasonal or temporary residence within the State,  
11 of whatever duration, shall not constitute domicile within the State  
12 for the purposes of this act. Absence from this State for a period of  
13 12 months shall be prima facie evidence of abandonment of  
14 domicile in this State. The burden of establishing legal domicile  
15 within the State shall be upon the claimant.

16 (g) "Tax year" means the particular calendar year in which the  
17 general property tax is due and payable.

18 (h) "Veteran" means any [citizen and] resident of this State who  
19 served at least 90 days of active service in the Armed Forces of the  
20 United States, excluding any period of service for basic training or  
21 as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, or served  
22 as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the  
23 United States for an entire period for which called to federal active  
24 service, not including active duty for training, and was honorably  
25 discharged or released therefrom under honorable circumstances  
26 [from active service in time of war in any branch of the Armed  
27 Forces of the United States]. A person who served fewer than 90  
28 days of active service or who served less than the entire period to  
29 which called to active service shall be classed as a veteran if that  
30 person has been honorably discharged or released under honorable  
31 circumstances from active service as a result of a service-connected  
32 disability incurred as a result of such service.

33 (i) "Veteran's deduction" means the deduction against the taxes  
34 payable by any person, allowable pursuant to this act.

35 (j) "Surviving spouse" means the surviving wife or husband of  
36 [any of the following,] a veteran, or of a resident of this State who  
37 died in active service in the Armed Forces of the United States or a  
38 reserve component thereof, while [he or she] the surviving wife or  
39 husband is a resident of this State, during widowhood or  
40 widowerhood [:

41 1. A citizen and resident of this State who has died or shall die  
42 while on active duty in time of war in any branch of the Armed  
43 Forces of the United States; or

44 2. A citizen and resident of this State who has had or shall  
45 hereafter have active service in time of war in any branch of the  
46 Armed Forces of the United States and who died or shall die while  
47 on active duty in a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;

1 or

2 3. A citizen and resident of this State who has been or may  
3 hereafter be honorably discharged or released under honorable  
4 circumstances from active service in time of war in any branch of  
5 the Armed Forces of the United States】.

6 (k) "Cooperative" means a housing corporation or association  
7 incorporated or organized under the laws of New Jersey which  
8 entitles a shareholder thereof to possess and occupy for dwelling  
9 purposes a house, apartment or other structure owned or leased by  
10 the corporation or association.

11 (l) "Mutual housing corporation" means a corporation not-for-  
12 profit incorporated under the laws of New Jersey on a mutual or  
13 cooperative basis within the scope of section 607 of the "National  
14 Defense Housing Act," Pub.L.76-849 (42 U.S.C.s.1521 et seq.),  
15 which acquired a National Defense Housing Project pursuant to that  
16 act.

17 (cf: P.L.2005, c.64, s.5)

18

19 13. Section 2 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.11) is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 2. Every 【person a citizen and resident of this State now or  
22 hereafter honorably discharged or released under honorable  
23 circumstances from active service in time of war in any branch of  
24 the Armed Forces of the United States】 veteran and 【a】 surviving  
25 spouse 【as defined herein, during her widowhood or his  
26 widowerhood, and while a resident of this State,】 shall be entitled,  
27 annually, on proper claim 【being made】 therefor, to a deduction  
28 from the amount of any tax bill for taxes on real 【or personal】  
29 property 【or both】 in the sum of \$100 in tax year 2000, \$150 in tax  
30 year 2001, \$200 in tax year 2002, and \$250 in each subsequent tax  
31 year, or if the amount of any such tax shall be less than \$100 in tax  
32 year 2000, \$150 in tax year 2001, \$200 in tax year 2002, and \$250  
33 in each subsequent tax year, to a cancellation thereof.

34 (cf: P.L.2000, c.9, s.1)

35

36 14. Section 3 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.12) is amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 3. No veteran's deduction from taxes assessed against real 【and  
39 personal】 property, as provided herein, shall be allowed except  
40 upon written application therefor, which application shall be on a  
41 form prescribed by the Director of the Division of Taxation, in the  
42 Department of the Treasury, and provided for the use of claimants  
43 hereunder by the governing body of the municipality constituting  
44 the taxing district in which such claim is to be filed and the  
45 application has been approved as provided in this act.

46 【An assessor shall not require the filing of an application for a  
47 veteran's deduction under this act of any person who has filed, or

1 shall file, a claim for an exemption from taxation under chapter 184  
 2 of the laws of 1951, on or before December 31, 1963, but shall  
 3 approve a veteran's deduction for such person, if it appears from  
 4 such claim for exemption that such person meets all the other  
 5 prerequisites required by law for the approval of a claim for a  
 6 veteran's deduction.】

7 Each assessor may at any time inquire into the right of a claimant  
 8 to the continuance of a veteran's deduction 【hereunder】 and for that  
 9 purpose he or she may require the filing of a new application or the  
 10 submission of such proof as 【he】 shall 【deem】 be deemed  
 11 necessary to determine the right of the claimant to continuance of  
 12 such deduction. No application for a veteran's deduction based  
 13 upon active service in the Armed Forces of the United States or a  
 14 reserve component thereof shall be allowed unless there is annexed  
 15 thereto a copy 【, which may be photostatic,】 of the claimant's  
 16 certificate of honorable discharge or 【of his certificate of】 release  
 17 under honorable circumstances from 【active service in time of war  
 18 in a branch of】 the Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve  
 19 component thereof.

20 In the case of an application by a surviving spouse said  
 21 application shall not be allowed unless it clearly establishes that:

22 (a) Claimant's spouse died while on active 【duty】 service in 【a  
 23 branch of】 the Armed Forces of the United States 【, having had  
 24 active service in time of war, as herein defined, in a branch of the  
 25 Armed Forces of the United States】 or a reserve component thereof,  
 26 or in the case of a surviving spouse of a veteran, claimant shall  
 27 establish that the veteran was honorably discharged or released  
 28 under honorable circumstances from 【active service in time of war  
 29 in any branch of】 the Armed Forces of the United States, or a  
 30 reserve component thereof; (b) claimant's spouse was a 【citizen  
 31 and】 resident of this State at the time of death【,】; (c) claimant was  
 32 the spouse of the veteran at the time of the veteran's death【,】; and  
 33 (d) claimant is a resident of this State and has not remarried.

34 (cf: P.L.1997, c.30, s.1)

35

36 15. Section 4 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.13) is amended to  
 37 read as follows:

38 4. An application for a veteran's deduction 【hereunder】 may be  
 39 filed with the assessor of the taxing district at any time on or before  
 40 December 31 of the pretax year. If so filed and approved by the  
 41 assessor, he or she shall allow a veteran's deduction from taxes on  
 42 the real 【or personal】 property 【, or both,】 assessed to the claimant  
 43 in the amount 【of the claim approved by him and】 prescribed by  
 44 section 2 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.11). The assessor shall  
 45 indicate, upon the assessment list and duplicates, (1) the veteran's  
 46 deduction application approval 【thereof】 in such manner as shall be

1 prescribed by rules of the Director of the Division of Taxation **[**,  
2 together with**]** ; and (2) the proportionate share of **[such]** property  
3 deemed to be owned by the claimant for the purposes of **[this act]**  
4 establishing a claim to a veteran's deduction, if the claimant is not  
5 the sole owner thereof. **[The]** If the application **[, if]** is not filed  
6 with the assessor **[within the time aforementioned,]** on or before  
7 December 31 of the pretax year, it may be filed with the collector  
8 during the tax year **[and upon approval by]** for review. If the  
9 collector **[of such]** approves the application he or she shall  
10 determine the amount of the reduction in tax to which the claimant  
11 is entitled and shall allow said amount as an offset against the tax  
12 then remaining unpaid. If the amount allowable as an offset **[shall**  
13 exceed] exceeds the amount of the tax then unpaid for that tax year,  
14 or if the application for a veteran's deduction is not filed with the  
15 collector until after all taxes for the tax year have been fully paid,  
16 the claimant may make application to the governing body of the  
17 municipality constituting the taxing district for the refund of any tax  
18 overpaid, but without interest, and the governing body may, in its  
19 discretion, direct the return of any tax **[deemed by it]** it deems to  
20 have been overpaid by reason of claimant's failure to make timely  
21 application for a veteran's deduction; provided, however, that an  
22 assessor, collector or governing body shall not allow an **[no]**  
23 application for a veteran's deduction for any previous tax year  
24 **[shall be allowed by any assessor, collector or governing body]**.

25 Where an application for a veteran's deduction is filed with and  
26 allowed by a collector **[he]**, the collector shall promptly transmit  
27 such application and all exhibits attached thereto, or a **[photostatic]**  
28 copy thereof, to the assessor of the taxing district. Upon receipt  
29 thereof the assessor shall review the application and if approved by  
30 **[him]** the assessor it shall have the same force as if originally filed  
31 with him or her.

32 (cf: P.L.1985, c.515, s.9)

33  
34 16. Section 8 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.17) is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 8. No person shall be allowed a veteran's deduction from the  
37 tax assessed against real **[and personal]** property of more than \$100  
38 in the aggregate in tax year 2000, \$150 in the aggregate in tax year  
39 2001, \$200 in the aggregate in tax year 2002 and \$250 in the  
40 aggregate in any subsequent tax year, but a veteran's deduction may  
41 be claimed in any taxing district in which the claimant has taxable  
42 property and may be apportioned, at the claimant's option, between  
43 two or more taxing districts; provided such claims shall not exceed  
44 \$100 in the aggregate in tax year 2000, \$150 in the aggregate in tax  
45 year 2001, \$200 in the aggregate in tax year 2002 and \$250 in the  
46 aggregate in any subsequent tax year. If a surviving spouse **[, as**

1 herein defined, shall have been honorably discharged or released  
2 under honorable circumstances from active service in time of war in  
3 any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, **is also a**  
4 veteran, the surviving spouse shall be entitled to a veteran's  
5 deduction for each status.

6 The veteran's deductions herein provided shall be in addition to  
7 any exemptions now or hereafter provided by any other statute for  
8 disabled veterans or surviving spouses **], as herein defined,]** and in  
9 addition to any deductions provided under P.L.1963, c.172 (C.54:4-  
10 8.40 et seq.) for senior citizens and the permanently and totally  
11 disabled, and certain surviving spouses thereof, to which the  
12 claimant is entitled. In addition, a claimant may receive any  
13 homestead rebate or credit provided by law.

14 (cf: P.L.2000, c.9, s.2)

15

16 17. (New section) Notwithstanding any other law to the  
17 contrary, a resident of this State who is in active service in the  
18 Armed Forces of the United States or is a member of a reserve  
19 component thereof, and has not been discharged or released  
20 therefrom, but who otherwise qualifies as a veteran, shall be eligible  
21 for a civil service preference on the same basis as a veteran. Instead  
22 of the certificate of honorable discharge or release under honorable  
23 circumstances required to be provided to the Adjutant General of  
24 the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs pursuant to  
25 N.J.S.11A:5-1, the claimant shall provide to the Adjutant General,  
26 in a form and content the Adjutant General shall deem appropriate,  
27 evidence of his or her status as an active service member of the  
28 Armed Forces of the United States or as a member of a reserve  
29 component thereof.

30

31 18. (New section) Notwithstanding any other law to the  
32 contrary, a resident of this State who is in active service in the  
33 Armed Forces of the United States or is a member of a reserve  
34 component thereof, and has not been discharged or released  
35 therefrom, but who otherwise qualifies as a veteran, shall be eligible  
36 for a veterans' deduction on the same basis as a veteran. Instead of  
37 the certificate of honorable discharge or release under honorable  
38 circumstances required to be provided to the assessor pursuant to  
39 section 3 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.12), the claimant shall  
40 provide to the assessor, in a form and content the Adjutant General  
41 shall deem appropriate, evidence of his or her status as an active  
42 service member of the Armed Forces of the United States or as a  
43 member of a reserve component thereof.

44

45 19. N.J.S.11A:5-13, section 3 of P.L.2001, c.128 (C.43:15A-  
46 24b) and section 1 of P.L.1983, c.391 (C.43:16A-11.7) are repealed.

1       20. Section 2 of P.L.1971, c.398 (C.54:4-3.33a) and sections 13  
2 and 14 of P.L.1963, c.171 (C.54:4-8.22 and 8.23) are repealed.

3  
4       21. This act shall take effect immediately, but sections 10  
5 through 16, section 18 and section 20 shall take effect on the 1st  
6 day of the tax year following approval by the voters of an  
7 authorizing amendment to Article VIII, Section I, paragraph 3 of  
8 the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and sections 1 through 3  
9 shall take effect on the 1st day of the calendar year following  
10 approval by the voters of an authorizing amendment to Article VII,  
11 Section I, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the State of New  
12 Jersey.

13  
14  
15                                   STATEMENT

16  
17       This bill broadens the eligibility for certain veterans' benefits by  
18 eliminating the requirement that a veteran serve during specific  
19 wars or other periods of emergency, and, in certain instances, that a  
20 veteran serve in a war zone. Instead of service during specific dates  
21 or in specific locations, the bill requires a veteran to serve for at  
22 least 90 days, exclusive of certain types of initial training, in order  
23 to be eligible for any of the primary veterans' benefits.  
24 Alternatively, the bill requires a veteran of a reserve component of  
25 the United States Armed Forces (including the National Guard) to  
26 serve the entire period to which called to federal active service,  
27 exclusive of training, in order to be eligible for the primary  
28 veterans' benefits. A veteran who is discharged as the result of a  
29 service-connected disability will be eligible even if the veteran has  
30 not completed the 90 days' service or the period to which called to  
31 federal active service.

32       The benefits that a newly eligible veteran could apply for are (1)  
33 a civil service preference under Title 11A of the New Jersey  
34 Statutes; (2) a veteran's retirement allowance under the Teachers'  
35 Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) or the Public Employees'  
36 Retirement System (PERS); (3) the purchase of additional military  
37 service credit in the Police and Firemen's Retirement System  
38 (PFRS), TPAF and PERS; (4) the annual property tax deduction  
39 provided under Article VIII of the New Jersey Constitution (\$150 in  
40 tax year 2001, \$200 in tax year 2002 and \$250 in each tax year  
41 thereafter) or the property tax exemption provided under  
42 N.J.S.A.54:4-3.30 for a veteran who is certified permanently 100%  
43 disabled by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs. In  
44 addition, the surviving spouse of a veteran or of a member of the  
45 Armed Forces of the United States or a reserve component thereof  
46 killed while in active service is eligible in certain instances for a  
47 civil service preference or the property tax deduction or exemption.

48       The bill also provides that an active service member of the



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1 United States Armed Forces or a current member of a reserve  
2 component thereof (including the National Guard) who has not been  
3 discharged from service is eligible for the civil service preference  
4 and the property tax deduction provided that he or she otherwise  
5 qualifies as a veteran.

6 Eligibility for the property tax benefits and civil service benefits  
7 are contingent upon voter approval of an authorizing amendment to  
8 the State Constitution.