SYNOPSIS

Increases allowance paid to war veterans with certain service-connected disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee with technical review.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/16/2022)
AN ACT providing for an increase to the allowance paid to veterans
with certain wartime service-connected disabilities, and
amending various parts of the statutory law.

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

1. R.S.38:18-2 is amended to read as follows:

38:18-2. A soldier, who has sustained a total loss of sight as a
result of his service during any of the wars mentioned in [section 1
of this chapter] R.S.38:18-1, shall be paid for the term of his life,
and upon his death his surviving spouse shall be paid, provided that
the soldier or surviving spouse shall continue as a resident of this
State, the sum of [$750.00] $1,800 annually, in monthly payments.
Such payments shall be due and payable from the date of discharge
or release of the soldier if application therefor shall be made within
one year from the date of such discharge or release. If the
application shall be made one year from the date of discharge or
release of the soldier such payments shall be due and payable from
the date of such application. Accrued payments to the date of
certification shall be paid in one lump sum.
(cf: P.L.1985, c.116, s.1)

2. R.S.38:18-3 is amended to read as follows:

38:18-3. Evidence of the service and disability mentioned in
[this chapter] R.S.38:18-1 shall be furnished to the Division of
Veterans Services of the Department of [Economic Development]
Military and Veterans Affairs, which shall examine the same and
upon being satisfied that the service was performed and the soldier
has been rendered totally blind as a result thereof, shall so certify to
the [State Comptroller] Director of the Division of Budget and
Accounting who shall, upon receipt thereof, draw [his] a warrant
on the State Treasurer in favor of the applicant in a bulk sum for
any accrued payments and in the sum of [$750.00] $1,800
annually, which the State Treasurer shall pay out of the money
appropriated therefor by the Legislature.
(cf: P.L.1971, c.329, s.2)

3. Section 2 of P.L.1947, c.263 (C.38:18A-2) is amended to
read as follows:

2. A veteran who served in the active military or naval forces
of the United States and who has paraplegia and permanent
paralysis of both legs and lower parts of the body, or who has
osteochondritis and permanent loss of the use of both legs, or who

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.
has hemiplegia and permanent paralysis of one leg and one arm or
either side of the body, resulting from injury to the spinal cord,
skeletal structure, or brain, or who has had both hands, both feet, or
one hand and one foot amputated, or who has lost the use of both
feet or both legs, due to multiple sclerosis, sustained through enemy
action, or accident, or resulting from disease contracted while in
active military or naval service, shall be paid for the term of the
veteran's life, and upon the veteran's death the surviving spouse,
domestic partner, or partner in civil union shall be paid, the sum of
[$750] $1,800 annually in monthly payments. Such payments shall
be due and payable from the date of discharge or release of the
veteran if application therefor shall be made within one year from
the date of such discharge or release. If the application shall be
made after one year from the date of discharge or release of the
veteran, such payment shall be due and payable from the date of
such application. Accrued payments to the date of certification shall
be paid in one lump sum.

Nothing in P.L.1947, c.263 (C.38:18A-1 et seq.) shall be
intended to include paraplegia or hemiplegia resulting from
locomotor ataxia or other forms of syphilis of the central nervous
system or from chronic alcohol use disorder, or to include other
forms of disease resulting from the veteran's own misconduct which
may produce signs and symptoms similar to those resulting from
paraplegia, osteochondritis, hemiplegia, or multiple sclerosis.
(cf: P.L.2017, c.131, s.146)

4. Section 3 of P.L.1947, c.263 (C.38:18A-3) is amended to
read as follows:

3. Evidence of the service and disability mentioned in this act,
P.L.1947, c.263 (C.38:18A-1 et seq.), shall be furnished to the
Division of Veterans Services of the Department of
Military and Veterans Affairs, which shall
examine the same and upon being satisfied that the service was
performed and the veteran has been rendered permanently paralyzed
or has permanently lost the use of both legs, or has suffered
amputation, as defined in section 2 of this act, shall so certify to the
Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the
Department of the Treasury, who shall, upon receipt thereof, draw
a warrant on the State Treasurer in favor of the applicant in
the sum of [$750.00] $1,800 annually, which the State Treasurer
shall pay out of the money appropriated therefor by the Legislature.
(cf: P.L.1981, c.424, s.3).

5. This act shall take effect on January 1 next following the
date of enactment.