

**SENATE, No. 1377**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 10, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Diegnan**

**SYNOPSIS**

Expands eligibility for veterans' civil service preference; creates additional preference benefits.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/8/2023)**

1 AN ACT concerning veterans' civil service preference and  
2 supplementing chapter 5 of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. Any individual who does not meet the definition of  
8 disabled veteran pursuant to subsection a. of N.J.S.11A:5-1, but  
9 does meet the definition of disabled veteran in federal law by 5  
10 U.S.C. s.2108 as may be amended and supplemented and receives a  
11 passing score on an open competitive examination shall be entitled  
12 to ten additional points above the individual's earned score.

13 b. Any individual who does not meet the definition of veteran  
14 pursuant to subsection b. of N.J.S.11A:5-1 but does meet the  
15 definition of veteran in federal law by 5 U.S.C. s.2108 as may be  
16 amended and supplemented and receives a passing score on an open  
17 competitive examination shall be entitled to five additional points  
18 above the individual's earned score.

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20 2. This act shall take effect on July 1 next following enactment,  
21 and shall apply to persons taking examinations for appointments  
22 after that date.

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#### STATEMENT

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27 This bill would expand eligibility for veterans' hiring preference  
28 in the civil service so that individuals who are eligible for veterans'  
29 preference in the federal civil service, but are not eligible for  
30 preference in the State civil service, would receive additional points  
31 above the individual's earned score on State civil service  
32 examinations.

33 To receive the additional points, an individual must meet the  
34 eligibility requirements in section 2108 of Title 5, United States  
35 Code, as may be amended and supplemented. This means that an  
36 honorable or general discharge is necessary. National Guard and  
37 Reserve active duty for training purposes would not qualify.

38 Under the bill, five points would be added to the passing  
39 examination score of an individual who is not eligible for State  
40 veterans' hiring preference, but served:

41 -During the period December 7, 1941, to July 1, 1955; or

42 -For more than 180 consecutive days, any part of which occurred  
43 after January 31, 1955, and before October 15, 1976; or

44 -During the Gulf War from August 2, 1990 through January 2,  
45 1992; or

46 -In a campaign or expedition for which a campaign medal has  
47 been authorized, including El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Lebanon,

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1 Panama, Somalia, Southwest Asia, Bosnia, and the Global War on  
2 Terrorism.

3 Ten points would be added to the passing examination score of  
4 an individual who is not eligible for State disabled veterans' hiring  
5 preference, but who served at any time and (1) has a present  
6 service-connected disability or (2) is receiving compensation,  
7 disability retirement benefits, or a pension from the federal military  
8 or the Department of Veterans Affairs.

9 The application of this new benefit to disabled veterans who did  
10 not serve in a time of war would apply only if an amendment to the  
11 State constitution is approved by the voters to permit such disabled  
12 veterans to receive the benefit.