

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 107**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 3, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator MICHAEL L. TESTA, JR.

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Proposes constitutional amendment authorizing Legislature to extend civil service hiring preference to veterans who did not serve in time of war.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 A **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** proposing to amend Article VII,
2 Section I, paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution.

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the
5 General Assembly concurring):

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7 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of
8 the State of New Jersey is hereby agreed to:

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10 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

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12 Amend Article VII, Section I, paragraph 2 to read as follows:

13 2. Appointments and promotions in the civil service of the
14 State, and of such political subdivisions as may be provided by law,
15 shall be made according to merit and fitness to be ascertained, as far
16 as practicable, by examination, which, as far as practicable, shall be
17 competitive; except that preference in appointments by reason of
18 active service in any branch of the military or naval forces of the
19 United States **[in time of war]** may be provided by law.
20 (cf: Art. VII, Sec. I, par. 2)

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22 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally
23 agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it
24 shall be submitted to the people at the next general election
25 occurring more than three months after the final agreement and
26 shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each
27 county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
28 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three
29 months prior to the general election.

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31 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be
32 submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and
33 form:

34 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the
35 general election, the following:

36 a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,
37 a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

38 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus
39 (+), or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are
40 opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (✓) in the
41 square opposite the word "No."

42 b. In every municipality the following question:

| | |
|------------|--|
| <p>YES</p> | <p>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BROADEN THE CIVIL SERVICE HIRING PREFERENCE TO VETERANS WHO DID NOT SERVE IN WAR</p> <p>Do you approve amending the Constitution to broaden the hiring preference that is given to veterans who apply for civil service positions? The Legislature could vote to broaden the preference to include veterans who did not serve in time of war. Presently, only veterans who did serve in time of war are given the hiring preference.</p> |
| <p>NO</p> | <p>INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>This amendment would allow the Legislature to grant a veteran who did not serve in time of war a hiring preference for a civil service position.</p> <p>Presently, the hiring preference for a civil service position is given by law only to a veteran who served in time of war. The preference is also given by law to a spouse or parent of an eligible veteran in certain cases. The amendment would allow the Legislature to pass a law granting a civil service hiring preference to a veteran who did not serve in time of war.</p> |

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STATEMENT

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5 This concurrent resolution proposes an amendment to the New
 6 Jersey Constitution to allow the Legislature to enact a law to extend
 7 the preference given to veterans for hiring for civil service
 8 positions. The law would determine the eligibility of veterans for
 9 the purpose of hiring preferences for civil service positions.

10 Currently, only veterans who served in time of war receive a
 11 hiring preference when applying for civil service positions. This
 12 amendment would allow veterans who did not serve in time of war
 13 also to receive a hiring preference for civil service positions.