THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 1908 Session of 1989

INTRODUCED BY J. L. WRIGHT, ROBINSON, BORTNER, NOYE, BILLOW, GLADECK, MAINE, CARLSON, GEIST, JACKSON, DOMBROWSKI, MARKOSEK, MELIO, DISTLER, JOSEPHS, DALEY, McCALL, BELARDI, FREEMAN, B. SMITH, CORRIGAN, KENNEY, TELEK, JAMES, TRELLO, D. F. CLARK, MRKONIC, LAUGHLIN, E. Z. TAYLOR, CLYMER, THOMAS, DeLUCA, CIVERA AND KASUNIC, SEPTEMBER 27, 1989

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, SEPTEMBER 27, 1989

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 11, 1947 (P.L.565, No.248), entitled 1 2 "An act providing compensation to certain persons who served 3 in the military or naval forces of the United States or of 4 any of her allies during World War II; providing the method 5 of making payment to representatives of persons who, because 6 of death or incapacity, cannot personally receive 7 compensation; imposing certain duties on the Adjutant 8 General; making an appropriation, and providing penalties," 9 extending its provisions to the merchant marine.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the act of June 11, 1947

13 (P.L.565, No.248), known as the World War II Veterans'

14 Compensation Act, are amended to read:

15 Section 2. Definitions.--As used in this act the word

16 "veteran" includes any individual, a member of the military or

17 naval forces or the merchant marine of the United States, or of

18 any of her allies during World War II, between the seventh day

19 of December, one thousand nine hundred forty-one and the second

day of September, one thousand nine hundred forty-five, but does 1 2 not include, (a) any individual at any time during such periods, or thereafter, separated from such forces under other than 3 honorable conditions, (b) any conscientious objector, who 4 5 performed no military duty whatsoever, or refused to wear the uniform, or (c) any alien at any time during such periods, or 6 7 thereafter, discharged from military or naval forces or the merchant marine on account of his alienage, (d) any individual 8 9 who renounced his United States citizenship during such period. The term "legal resident of this Commonwealth" means any 10 11 individual who gave the State of Pennsylvania, or any specific 12 place in this Commonwealth, as his or her place of residence at 13 the time of entering the military or naval forces or the 14 merchant marine of the United States, or of any of her allies, 15 for such period without regard to the place of enlistment, 16 commission or induction. The proof of such residence shall be either the official records on file in the War Department of the 17 18 United States, or on file in the comparable governmental agency of any of her allies, or such other evidence of bona fide 19 20 residence as may be deemed sufficient by the Adjutant General of 21 Pennsylvania.

22 Section 3. Computation of Compensation. -- Compensation shall 23 be payable under this act to any veteran a legal resident of 24 this Commonwealth, and shall be computed on the basis of ten 25 dollars (\$10) for every month and major fraction thereof of 26 active service within the United States, and fifteen dollars 27 (\$15) for every month and major fraction thereof of active service without the United States in the military or naval 28 29 forces or the merchant marine of the United States, or of any of 30 her allies, as shown by the service or other record of the 19890H1908B2453 - 2 -

veteran, except that the compensation of a veteran who died in 1 active military service during the period set forth in section 2 two of this act shall be five hundred dollars (\$500). No veteran 3 who served less than sixty (60) days active service shall be 4 5 entitled to receive any compensation under this act. Any veteran who was in active service during the periods specified shall be 6 allowed the per monthly compensation, as designated, until the 7 second day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-six, but no 8 veteran shall be entitled to receive compensation under this act 9 10 in a sum to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500).

Section 4. Time of Service Excluded From Compensation.--In computing time in the service for compensation no allowance shall be made to:

14 (a) Any civilian officer or employe of any branch of 15 military or naval forces or the merchant marine, contract surgeon, cadet of the United States Military Academy, midshipmen 16 of the United States Naval Academy, or of the Coast Guard, 17 member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, member of the 18 Students' Army Training Corps (except an enlisted man detailed 19 20 to a training detachment of any of the foregoing) in each case 21 for the period of service as such;

(b) Any member of the Public Health Service for any period
during which he or she was not detailed for active duty with the
Army, Navy [or], Marine Corps or the merchant marine;

(c) Any individual granted a farm or industrial furlough forthe period of such furlough;

(d) Any individual who has received a bonus, gratuity or compensation of a nature similar to that provided for by this act from any other state in the Union, or from any of the allies of the United States.

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In computing the compensation of any veteran under this act, 1 2 effect shall be given to all sub-divisions of this section which 3 are applicable.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days. 4