
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1460 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY SCHLOSSBERG, CALTAGIRONE, CIRESI, FREEMAN, HILL-
EVANS, KENYATTA, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, MADDEN, MALAGARI,
MARKOSEK, McCLINTON, READSHAW, SCHWEYER, SOLOMON AND
YOUNGBLOOD, MAY 14, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MAY 14, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in military educational programs,
3 further providing for limitations; in veterans' preference,
4 further providing for soldier defined; in veterans' pensions
5 and benefits, further providing for blind veteran's pension
6 and for amputee and paralyzed veteran's pension; in
7 educational gratuity program, further providing for
8 definitions; and, in disabled veterans' real estate tax
9 exemption, further providing for exemption.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Sections 3206(b)(2), 7101, 7701(a) and 7702(c) of
13 Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended
14 to read:

15 § 3206. Limitations.

16 * * *

17 (b) Active duty.--

18 * * *

19 (2) For eligible members who were called or ordered to
20 active Federal service or active State duty under section 508

1 (relating to active State duty for emergency) after September
2 11, 2001, the deadline for making grant payments shall be
3 extended for one additional month for each month or part of
4 month of such service after the member is discharged or
5 released under [honorable] other than dishonorable conditions
6 from the Pennsylvania National Guard.

7 * * *

8 § 7101. Soldier defined.

9 As used in this chapter, "soldier" means a person who served
10 or hereafter serves in the armed forces of the United States, or
11 in any women's organization officially connected therewith,
12 during any war or armed conflict in which the United States
13 engaged and who was released from active duty under honorable
14 conditions, other than from periods of active duty for training,
15 or with an honorable discharge from such service, or a person
16 who so served or hereafter serves in the armed forces of the
17 United States, or in any women's organization officially
18 connected therewith, since July 27, 1953, including service in
19 Vietnam, and who [has an honorable discharge] was discharged or
20 released under conditions other than dishonorable from such
21 service. Qualifying periods of service during a war or armed
22 conflict, for purposes of this provision, will be designated by
23 the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

24 § 7701. Blind veteran's pension.

25 (a) Definition.--As used in this section the term "blind
26 veteran" shall mean any person who served in the military or
27 naval forces of the United States, or any woman's organization
28 officially connected therewith, at any time, and who gave the
29 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as his or her place of residence
30 at the time of entering the military or naval forces of the

1 United States, and who while performing duties connected with
2 such service suffered an injury or incurred a disease which
3 resulted in blindness to the extent that he or she has 3/60 or
4 10/200 or less normal vision. The term "blind veteran" shall not
5 include any person [separated] discharged or released from the
6 military or naval forces of the United States, or any woman's
7 organization officially connected therewith, under [other than
8 honorable] dishonorable conditions.

9 * * *

10 § 7702. Amputee and paralyzed veteran's pension.

11 * * *

12 (c) Definition.--As used in this section the term "amputee
13 and paralyzed veteran" means any person who served in the
14 military or naval forces of the United States, or any woman's
15 organization officially connected therewith, and who gave this
16 Commonwealth as his or her place of residence at the time of
17 entering the military or naval forces of the United States and
18 who, while performing duties connected with such service,
19 suffered an injury or incurred a disease which resulted in the
20 loss or the permanent and severe or complete paralysis of two or
21 more limbs, being defined as having at least two limbs with a
22 40% disability compensation rating or higher in each limb as
23 determined and certified by the United States Department of
24 Veterans Affairs in accordance with 38 CFR Ch. 1 Pt. 4 (relating
25 to schedule for rating disabilities), or its successor. The term
26 does not include any person [separated] discharged or released
27 from the military or naval forces of the United States under
28 [other than honorable] dishonorable conditions.

29 Section 2. The definition of "eligible disabled or deceased
30 veteran" in section 8701 of Title 51 is amended to read:

1 § 8701. Definitions.

2 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
3 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
4 context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 * * *

6 "Eligible disabled or deceased veteran." A person who served
7 in the military or naval forces of the United States, or a
8 women's organization officially connected therewith, who:

9 (1) was killed in action or died as a result of wounds
10 incurred during a period of war or armed conflict or as a
11 result of hostile fire or terrorist attack during peacetime
12 (as determined by the Department of Military Affairs);

13 (2) died in service during a period of war or armed
14 conflict;

15 (3) was [honorably] discharged or released under other
16 than dishonorable conditions from the military or naval
17 forces of the United States and certified by the United
18 States Veterans' Administration as a 100% disabled veteran as
19 a result of service during a period of war or armed conflict
20 or as a result of hostile fire or terrorist attack (as
21 determined by the Department of Military Affairs) during
22 peacetime; or

23 (4) was [honorably] discharged or released under other
24 than dishonorable conditions from the military or naval
25 forces of the United States and died as a result of a
26 service-connected disability (as certified by the United
27 States Veterans' Administration) incurred during a period of
28 war or armed conflict or as a result of peacetime hostile
29 fire or terrorist attack (as determined by the Department of
30 Military Affairs).

1 * * *

2 Section 3. Section 8902(a)(1) of Title 51 is amended to
3 read:

4 § 8902. Exemption.

5 (a) General rule.--Any resident of this Commonwealth shall
6 be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon
7 any building, including the land upon which it stands, occupied
8 by that person as a principal dwelling, if all of the following
9 requirements are met:

10 (1) That person has been [honorably] discharged or
11 released under [honorable] other than dishonorable conditions
12 or circumstances from the armed forces of the United States
13 for service in any war or armed conflict in which this nation
14 was engaged.

15 * * *

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