

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bill Analysis

Bill No. HB 1654

Revising definition of veteran.

Brief title

Hearing Date 2/17/99

Rep's Name Kessler, Hatfield

Sponsor(s)

Staff Scot MacColl

State Government Committee

Phone 786-7106

BACKGROUND:

The definition of veteran in the current program specifically designates veterans who are eligible to be designated to receive public job preference and different retirement pay and other benefits.

Veteran Defined:

A veteran is defined as having served during a war in the direct theater of armed conflict as described in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf War and any future war as determined by Congress. The direct theater of armed conflict is described as Lebanon, Panama, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and others.

Merchant Marine Veteran Defined:

WWI merchant marine veterans are defined as being US documented merchant mariners who served on board a sea-going vessel operated by the War Shipping Administration, the Office of Defense Administration, during the period of armed conflict from December 7, 1941 to August 15, 1945.

Army/Navy Transportive Service Crewmember Defined:

A civilian veteran crewmember is defined as a US Army or Navy transportive vessel on a sea-going vessel during the period of armed conflict between December 7, 1941 to August 15, 1945.

SUMMARY:

Merchant Marine Veteran Defined:

The definition of WWI merchant marine veterans is altered to no longer include the requirement that the veterans served during armed conflict, the dates of service are extended from August 5, 1945 to December 31, 1946.

Army/Navy Transport Service Crewmember defined:

The definition of army/navy transport service veterans is altered to no longer include the requirement that veterans have served during armed conflict, the dates of service are extended from August 15, 1945 to December 31, 1946.

FISCANOTE: Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Ninety days after adjournment of session which bill passed.