
HOUSE BILL 2544

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Paul, Dufault, Leavitt, Graham, Smith, Volz, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/15/20. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the definition of veteran; and amending RCW
2 41.04.005.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.04.005 and 2018 c 61 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) As used in this section and RCW (~~(41.04.005,)~~) 41.16.220,
7 41.20.050, and 41.40.170 "veteran" includes every person, who at the
8 time he or she seeks the benefits of this section and RCW
9 (~~(41.04.005,)~~) 41.16.220, 41.20.050, or 41.40.170 has received an
10 honorable discharge, is actively serving honorably, or received a
11 discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record and who meets
12 at least one of the following criteria:

13 (a) The person has served between World War I and World War II or
14 during any period of war, as defined in subsection (2) of this
15 section, as either:

16 (i) A member in any branch of the armed forces of the United
17 States;

18 (ii) A member of the women's air forces service pilots;

19 (iii) A U.S. documented merchant mariner with service aboard an
20 oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping administration, the

1 office of defense transportation, or their agents, from December 7,
2 1941, through December 31, 1946; or

3 (iv) A civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army
4 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in
5 oceangoing service from December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946;
6 or

7 (b) The person has received the armed forces expeditionary medal,
8 or marine corps and navy expeditionary medal, for opposed action on
9 foreign soil, for service:

10 (i) In any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or

11 (ii) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots.

12 (2) A "period of war" includes:

13 (a) World War I;

14 (b) World War II;

15 (c) The Korean conflict;

16 (d) The Vietnam era, which means:

17 (i) The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May
18 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of
19 Vietnam during that period;

20 (ii) The period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7,
21 1975;

22 (e) The Persian Gulf War, which was the period beginning August
23 2, 1990, and ending on February 28, 1991, or ending on November 30,
24 1995, if the participant was awarded a campaign badge or medal for
25 such period;

26 (f) The period beginning on the date of any future declaration of
27 war by the congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential
28 proclamation or concurrent resolution of the congress; and

29 (g) (~~The following~~) Any armed conflicts, if the participant was
30 awarded the respective expeditionary or campaign badge or medal, or
31 if the service was such that ((a)) an expeditionary or campaign badge
32 or medal would have been awarded, except that the member already
33 received ((a)) an expeditionary or campaign badge or medal for a
34 prior deployment during that same conflict(~~the crisis in Lebanon;~~
35 ~~the invasion of Grenada;~~ ~~Panama, Operation Just Cause;~~ ~~Somalia,~~
36 ~~Operation Restore Hope;~~ ~~Haiti, Operation Uphold Democracy;~~ ~~Bosnia,~~
37 ~~Operation Joint Endeavor;~~ ~~Operation Noble Eagle;~~ ~~southern or central~~
38 ~~Asia, Operation Enduring Freedom;~~ ~~Persian Gulf, Operation Iraqi~~

1 ~~Freedom; Iraq and Syria, Operation Inherent Resolve; and Afghanistan,~~
2 ~~Operation Freedom's Sentinel)) .~~

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