S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

March 2, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. SCHIMMINGER, DenDEKKER, BENEDETTO, CERETTO, BUCHWALD, SANTABARBARA, STECK, BLAKE, COLTON, COOK, CUSICK, OTIS, WEPRIN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, DAVILA, MAGEE, ROBINSON, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the hire a vet grant program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Article 17-A of the executive law is amended by adding a new section 369-f to read as follows:

S 369-F. HIRE A VET GRANT. 1. ALLOWANCE OF GRANT. A MUNICIPALITY SHALL BE ALLOWED A GRANT EQUIVALENT TO THE CREDIT PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS IN THE "HIRE A VET CREDIT" AS ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION TWENTY-NINE OF SECTION 210-B OF THE TAX LAW, WHERE SUCH MUNICIPALITY HIRES AND EMPLOYS, FOR NOT LESS THAN ONE YEAR AND FOR NOT LESS THAN THIRTY-FIVE HOURS EACH WEEK, A QUALIFIED VETERAN WITHIN THE STATE. THE MUNICIPALITY MAY CLAIM THE GRANT IN THE YEAR IN WHICH THE QUALIFIED VETERAN COMPLETES ONE YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE MUNICIPALITY.

2. QUALIFIED VETERAN. A QUALIFIED VETERAN IS AN INDIVIDUAL:

(A) WHO SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINE CORPS, COAST GUARD OR THE RESERVES THEREOF, OR WHO SERVED IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, AIR NATIONAL GUARD, NEW YORK GUARD OR NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA; WHO WAS RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY BY GENERAL OR HONORABLE DISCHARGE AFTER SEPTEMBER ELEVENTH, TWO THOUSAND ONE;

(B) WHO COMMENCES EMPLOYMENT WITH THE MUNICIPALITY ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN; AND

(C) WHO CERTIFIES BY SIGNED AFFIDAVIT, UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, THAT HE OR SHE HAS NOT BEEN EMPLOYED FOR THIRTY-FIVE OR MORE HOURS DURING ANY WEEK IN THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAY PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT BY THE MUNICIPALITY.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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3. PROHIBITION. A MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT DISCHARGE AN EMPLOYEE AND HIRE A QUALIFYING VETERAN SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUALIFYING FOR THIS GRANT.

4. AMOUNT OF GRANT. THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT SHALL BE TEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF WAGES PAID TO THE QUALIFIED VETERAN DURING THE VETERAN'S FIRST FULL YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT, IF THE QUALIFIED VETERAN IS A DISABLED VETERAN, AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTY-FIVE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW, THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT SHALL BE FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF WAGES PAID TO THE QUALIFIED VETERAN DURING THE VETERAN'S FIRST FULL YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE GRANT ALLOWED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL NOT EXCEED IN ANY YEAR, FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR ANY QUALIFIED VETERAN AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR ANY QUALIFIED VETERAN WHO IS A DISABLED VETERAN.

S 2. Section 369-a of the executive law is amended by adding a new closing paragraph to read as follows:

THE LEGISLATURE FURTHER DECLARES IT TO BE IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE THE HIRING OF VETERANS BY MUNICIPALITIES IN THE STATE.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed January 1, 2021.