6055--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 5, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER, GRIFFIN, BARNWELL, McMAHON, THIELE, D. ROSENTHAL, SIMPSON, MIKULIN, DURSO, McDONALD -- read once and referred to the Committee on Real Property Taxation -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to clarifying the definition of veteran to include career members of the armed forces for purposes of the veterans alternative tax exemption

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 of section 458-a of the real property tax law, as amended by chapter 490 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

4 (e) "Veteran" means a person (i) who served in the active military, 5 naval, or air service during a period of war, or who was a recipient of 6 the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine 7 corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary 8 medal, and who (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable 9 conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section 10 three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge 11 other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a 12 discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct 13 or dishonorable from such service, (ii) who was employed by the War 14 Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their 15 agents as a merchant seaman documented by the United States Coast Guard 16 17 or Department of Commerce, or as a civil servant employed by the United 18 States Army Transport Service (later redesignated as the United States Army Transportation Corps, Water Division) or the Naval Transportation 19 20 Service; and who served satisfactorily as a crew member during the peri-21 od of armed conflict, December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one, to 22 August fifteenth, nineteen hundred forty-five, aboard merchant vessels 23 in oceangoing, i.e., foreign, intercoastal, or coastwise service as such 24 terms are defined under federal law (46 USCA 10301 & 10501) and further

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

LBD02972-04-1

to include "near foreign" voyages between the United States and Canada, 1 2 Mexico, or the West Indies via ocean routes, or public vessels in ocean-3 going service or foreign waters and who has received a Certificate of 4 Release or Discharge from Active Duty and a discharge certificate, or an 5 Honorable Service Certificate/Report of Casualty, from the department of б defense, (iii) who served as a United States civilian employed by the 7 American Field Service and served overseas under United States Armies 8 and United States Army Groups in world war II during the period of armed 9 conflict, December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one through May 10 eighth, nineteen hundred forty-five, and who (1) was discharged or 11 released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive 12 13 law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable 14 from such service, or (3) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a 15 16 discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, (iv) 17 who served as a United States civilian Flight Crew and Aviation Ground 18 Support Employee of Pan American World Airways or one of its subsid-19 iaries or its affiliates and served overseas as a result of Pan Ameri-20 can's contract with Air Transport Command or Naval Air Transport Service 21 during the period of armed conflict, December fourteenth, nineteen hundred forty-one through August fourteenth, nineteen hundred forty-22 five, and who (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable 23 conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section 24 25 three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge 26 other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a 27 discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct 28 29 or dishonorable from such service, $[\bullet r]$ (v) notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, who are members of the reserve compo-30 31 nents of the armed forces of the United States who (1) received an 32 honorable discharge or release therefrom under honorable conditions, or 33 (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section three hundred 34 fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad 35 conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a discharged LGBT 36 veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law, 37 and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, but are still members of the reserve components of the 38 armed forces of the United States provided that such members meet all 39 40 other qualifications under the provisions of this section, or (vi) who 41 shall be considered to have been discharged or released from active 42 military, naval, or air service under honorable conditions if: (1) the 43 individual served in the active military, naval, or air service for the period of time such individual was obligated to serve at the time of 44 45 entry into service; (2) the individual was not discharged or released 46 from such service at the time of completing such period of obligation 47 due to an intervening enlistment or reenlistment; (3) the individual would have been eligible for a discharge or release under conditions 48 other than dishonorable at such time except for such intervening enlist-49 50 ment or reenlistment; and (4) the individual served in the active mili-51 tary, naval, or air service for a period of at least ten years, provided 52 that such individual meets all other qualifications under the provisions

53 of this section.

54 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.