10461

IN ASSEMBLY

March 26, 2010

Introduced by M. of A. CASTELLI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT to amend the benevolent orders law, the alcoholic beverage control law, the general municipal law, the general city law, the town law, the military law, the social services law, the general business law and the real property tax law, in relation to declaring the Veterans of Modern Warfare, Inc. and the Vietnam Veterans of America to be benevolent orders and granting such organizations various benefits available to specified veterans' organizations

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 2 of the benevolent orders law is amended by adding 2 two new subdivisions 59 and 60 to read as follows:
 - 59. THE VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., OR ANY SUBORDINATE CHAPTER THEREOF, WHICH IS DULY CHARTERED BY AND INSTITUTED ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THAT ORGANIZATION.

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- 60. THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, OR ANY SUBORDINATE CHAPTER THERE-OF, WHICH IS DULY CHARTERED BY AND INSTITUTED ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THAT ORGANIZATION.
- 9 S 2. Section 7 of the benevolent orders law is amended by adding two 10 new subdivisions 16-i and 16-j to read as follows:
 - 16-I. ANY NUMBER OF CHARTERS OF THE VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., CHARTERED AND INSTALLED ACCORDING TO THE REGULATIONS OF THAT ORGANIZATION;
- 13 TION; 14 16-J. ANY NUMBER OF CHARTERS OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAR-15 TERED AND INSTALLED ACCORDING TO THE REGULATIONS OF THAT ORGANIZATION;
- 16 S 3. Subdivision 9 of section 3 of the alcoholic beverage control law, 17 as amended by chapter 575 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as 18 follows:
- 9. "Club" shall mean an organization of persons incorporated pursuant to the provisions of the not-for-profit corporation law or the benevo-lent orders law, which is the owner, lessee or occupant of a building used exclusively for club purposes, and which does not traffic in alco-location also beverages for profit and is operated solely for a recreational,

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

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social, patriotic, political, benevolent or athletic purpose but not for pecuniary gain; except that where such club is located in an office or 3 business building, or state armory, it may be licensed as such provided it otherwise qualifies as a "club" within the meaning of this subdivi-5 sion. A "luncheon club" shall mean a club which is open only on week 6 days during the hours between eleven o'clock in the morning and three o'clock in the afternoon. A "member" of a club shall mean a person who 7 8 whether a charter member or admitted in agreement with the by-laws of the club, has become a bona fide member thereof, who maintains his or 9 10 membership by the payment of his or her annual dues in a bona fide 11 manner in accordance with the by-laws and whose name and address entered on the list of members; or in the case of a veterans club where 12 a person has in his or her possession an identification card indicating 13 14 or her membership in the national veterans' organization with which 15 the club at which he or she is present is affiliated. For the purposes this section a veterans club shall include but not be limited to the 16 Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veter-17 18 ans of Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Inc., 19 the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, 20 21 Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, 22 Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of America 23 24 25 Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, the Sons of Union Veter-26 27 ans, Vietnam Veterans of America, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, 28 the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association. In the case of a chapter or 29 lodge of a not-for-profit corporation or a benevolent order qualifying 30 as an organization described in section 501(c)(8) or 501(c)(10) of the United States internal revenue code, a member of another chapter or 31 32 lodge of such not-for-profit corporation or benevolent order who has in 33 his or her possession an identification card or other proof of membership shall be deemed to be a member. A club and a luncheon club shall 34 35 appoint an alcoholic beverage officer from among its members who responsible for filing all applications and other documents required 36 37 to be submitted to the authority. The person appointed alcoholic beverage officer shall be subject to approval by the authority. 38 4. Subdivision 1 of section 77 of the general municipal law, as 39

- S 4. Subdivision 1 of section 77 of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter 1013 of the laws of 1969, is amended to read as follows:
- 41 42 1. A municipal corporation may lease, for not exceeding five years, to 43 a post or posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, Veterans of Foreign 44 Wars of the United States, American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Inc., Disabled American Veterans, the Army and Navy Union, U.S.A., Marine Corps League, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Jewish War 45 46 47 Veterans of the United States, Inc., Italian American War Veterans of 48 the United States, Incorporated, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of 49 50 Department of New York, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, 51 Amsterdam, N.Y., Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, nectady, N.Y., Inc., Polish Legion of American Veterans, Inc., VIETNAM 52 VETERANS OF AMERICA, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC. or other veteran 53 54 organization of honorably discharged members of the armed forces of the 55 United States or to an incorporated organization or an association of either active or exempt volunteer firemen, a public building or part 56

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thereof, belonging to such municipal corporation, except schoolhouses in actual use as such, without expense, or at a nominal rent, fixed by the board or council having charge of such buildings and provide furniture and furnishings, and heat, light and janitor service therefor, in like manner.

- S 5. Section 13 of the general city law, as separately amended by chapters 14 and 982 of the laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:
- S 13. Moneys for Memorial and Veterans days; how expended. The moneys appropriated by a city for observance of Memorial and Veterans days therein pursuant to section twelve of this chapter shall be expended under the direction of a board composed of the mayor and the commanders and quartermasters of the Grand Army posts, the American Legion, the United Spanish War Veterans camps, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States, the Army and Navy Union of the United States, the Marine Corps League, Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian Ameri-War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States and commanders and treasurers of Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Inc., Disabled American Veterans camps, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of America Department of New York, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y., Inc., Polish Legion of American Inc., United Veteran's Association of America, Incorporated, VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC. and United Veterans Memorial and Executive Committee of such city. The whole amount of such money appropriated or any part thereof may be spent by such board in observance of Memorial and Veterans days. Bills properly verified for all claims and expenditures arising under section twelve of this chapter or under this section, shall be presented to and audited by such board and shall be paid by the common council of any such city. The moneys appropriated shall be raised by tax on the real and personal property liable to taxation in any such city in the same manner
- ordinary expenses of maintaining the city government.

 S 6. Section 13-e of the general city law, as amended by chapter 328 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 37 S 13-e. Expenses of meeting rooms for veterans' and other organiza-Any city may appropriate and make available a sum of money not 38 exceeding five hundred dollars in any one year for each chapter, 39 40 camp or garrison, as the case may be, of the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Amer-41 ican Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Military Order of the 42 43 Purple Heart, Inc., the Army and Navy Union of the United States, 44 Marine Corps League, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, the Italian American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, Veterans of World War I of the United States of America Department of New 45 46 47 Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., 48 Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, 49 Inc., Polish Legion of American Veterans, Inc., the Jewish War Veterans 50 of the United States, Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., Masonic War 51 Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., the American Gold Star Mothers, 52 Inc., Regular Veterans Association, Inc., the Viet Nam Veterans of America, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans 53 54 Association, the 369th Veterans Association, Inc., the Tri-County Coun-55 cil of Vietnam Veterans, the National Congress of Puerto Rican Veterans, the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, the Korean War Veterans Associ-56

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ation, the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association, or the Navy Club of the U.S.A., located within its boundaries, for the purpose of assisting in defraying the rental or maintenance expenses, or both, of rooms for the holding of meetings of any such post, camp, garrison or chapter. All sums hereby authorized to be expended shall be appropriated, raised and expended, in the same manner as moneys for other municipal expenses in the city are appropriated, raised and expended.

S 7. Subdivision 12 of section 64 of the town law, as amended by chapter 658 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

10 Appropriations for Independence day, Memorial day, Columbus day 11 and Veterans day. Any town may appropriate annually such sums as it deem appropriate for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the proper 12 13 observance of Independence day, Memorial or Decoration day, Columbus day 14 and Veterans day in such proportion as it may determine. Any town of the 15 first class, or, any town having a population of five thousand inhabitants or more, excepting any such town having a population of two hundred 16 17 twenty-five thousand inhabitants or more, according to the latest feder-18 al census, in which one or more posts, camps or chapters of 19 Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of 20 Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, 21 Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the 22 United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, 23 Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, Amer-24 25 ican Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of 26 Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of America Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association, 27 Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., 28 Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y., Inc., the 29 30 Sons of Union Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., World War Veterans Club of Lindenhurst, Inc. or the East-31 32 Paralyzed Veterans Association exists, may appropriate annually an 33 amount not to exceed five thousand dollars for such purpose, town having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants 34 35 more, according to the latest federal census, in which one or more 36 such posts, camps or chapters exists may annually appropriate an 37 not to exceed five thousand dollars for such purpose, and any town which has a population of five hundred thousand inhabitants or more, according 38 39 the latest federal census, in which one or more such posts, camps or 40 chapters exists may annually appropriate an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars for such purpose. Any moneys appropriated pursuant to 41 the provisions of this subdivision shall be a general town charge, 42 43 except that in any town having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants or more there shall be a charge on that portion of 44 45 town outside of any village therein and shall be assessed, levied and collected from real property outside of any such village. Such sum 46 47 shall be paid to the supervisor of such town and be collected such town 48 disbursed by him in such manner as the town board of direct upon vouchers properly receipted and audited by the town board of 49 50 such town; except that in any town in which there may be a post, camp or 51 chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veter-52 ans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of the United 53 States, Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War 54 Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of Ameri-55 can Veterans, Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of Purple Heart, Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, 56

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AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of America Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y., Inc., the Sons of Union Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, VETERANS 5 6 7 OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., World War Veterans Club of Lindenhurst, Inc. or Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, in any such town, the 8 commanders and quartermasters of such posts, camp or chapter may direct 9 10 manner and extent of such observance and the supervisor shall pay 11 the expenses thereof upon the order or orders of the commander or quartermaster of such post, camp or chapter, which orders shall be his vouchers for such payment, and in case there may be two or more posts, 12 13 14 camps or chapters of the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish 15 War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of 16 United States, Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian 17 American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, the Polish 18 Legion of American Veterans, Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military 19 Order of the Purple Heart, Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Masonic War 20 21 Veterans of the State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of 22 United States of America Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, 23 24 Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Sche-25 nectady, N. Y., Inc., the Sons of Union Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of 26 America, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., World War Veterans Club of Lindenhurst, Inc. or the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, in any 27 28 such town, the commanders and quartermasters of such posts, camps 29 chapters by concurrent action, shall direct the supervisor of such town 30 what proportion of such moneys so raised shall be expended by each of such posts, camps or chapters which proportion shall be paid by such 31 32 supervisor upon the order or orders of the commander and quartermaster 33 of each of such posts. In case there is a post, camp or chapter in a 34 town adjoining a town in which no post, camp or chapter is located, 35 whose membership includes at least three residents of such town having no post, camp or chapter, the post, camp or chapter shall appoint a 36 37 committee of not less than three of its members who are residents of the 38 said adjoining town in which the post, camp or chapter is not located, 39 and the supervisor of said town shall pay the expenses of observance of 40 Independence day, Memorial or Decoration day and Veterans day upon the 41 order or orders of said committee or a majority thereof, which orders 42 shall be his vouchers for such payment. 43

- S 8. Subdivision 3 of section 24 of the military law, as amended by chapter 141 of the laws of 1988, is amended to read as follows:
- 3. He is authorized to request and accept from incorporated associations of veterans of the different regiments, statements and information duly authenticated by them, descriptive of their colors, standards and battle flags, together with the number and class of arms of the regiment, the date and place of muster into the service of the state and also into the service of the United States, the period of service, and the date and place of muster-out, the date of departure for the seat of war, and the various battles and engagements and places of service, including garrison duty, the time of joining brigades, corps and armies, with the time and nature of the service, and the names of colonels of such regiments, the names of those killed in action, including those who died of wounds, and the names of those who died of disease during their

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period of service. He is further authorized to ask the cooperation and assistance of the adjutant-general of the United States, and city, county and town authorities and officials, and of the Grand Army the Republic, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, the United Spanish War Veterans, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 5 6 the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Inc. , the Catholic 7 Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the United States, 8 Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, Inc., VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC. and of other 9 10 organizations and persons in the state of New York and elsewhere in the 11 collection of such other information, relics, memorials and battle flags as is contemplated by this article, in order to make as complete as possible the records, history and statistics of the patriotic service of 12 13 14 the soldiers of the state during the wars in which the state partic-15 ipated.

- S 9. Paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 183 of the military law, as amended by chapter 141 of the laws of 1988, is amended to read as follows:
- b. On application of one or more posts or chapters of the United Spanish War Veterans, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States, the Disabled American Veterans, the AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterthe Army and Navy Union of the United States of America, Inc., VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., posts of the Masonic War Veterans of the state of New York, Incorporated, or groups or squadrons of New York Wing, Civil Air Patrol, or of incorporated associations of veterans of units of the organized militia, or one more posts or chapters of organizations of sons of veterans of any war of the United States or of the Reserve Officers Association of States, or those historic military commands set forth in section United two hundred forty-a of [the] this chapter, approved by the officer charge and control of the armory, and by his military superiors as prescribed by regulations issued pursuant to this chapter and under such restrictions as may be prescribed by the adjutant general, the officer in charge and control of an armory shall provide a proper and convenient room or rooms or other appropriate space in such armory where such posts chapters may hold regular and special meetings and organizational social events of a private nature without the payment of any charge or expense therefor, provided that such use does not interfere with the members and units of the organized militia stationed in such armory.
- S 10. Subdivision 3 of section 168 of the social services law is amended by adding a new paragraph (v) to read as follows:
 - (V) VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC.
- S 11. Subdivision 1 of section 137 of the general business law, as amended by chapter 531 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as follows:
- 1. Any person who wilfully wears, or attaches to any motor vehicle, the badge, insignia, rosette or the button of the Grand Army of the Republic, the insignia, badge or rosette of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States or Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States, or the badge or button of the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Military Order of the World War, the Army and Navy Union, U.S.A., or the Order of Patrons of

Husbandry, or the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, or the Steuben Society of America, or the Jewish 3 Veterans of the United States, Inc., or the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the insignia or emblem of the Italian American War Veterans of the 5 United States, Incorporated, or the insignia or emblem of the National 6 Italo-American War Veterans, Inc., the insignia or emblem of the Polish 7 Legion of American Veterans, Inc., or the insignia or emblem of 8 Military Order of the Purple Heart, Inc., or the insignia or emblem of 9 any lodge, society or organization subordinate to or recognized as 10 Masonic by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of 11 New York, or the insignia or emblem of the Masonic War Veterans of the 12 State of New York, Inc., or the insignia or emblem of the Order of the 13 Eastern Star of the State of New York, or the badge, banner, insignia, 14 button or emblem of any lodge, society or organization subordinate to or 15 recognized as Pythian by the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias of the State of New York, or the badge, insignia, button, tab, or chapeaux of 16 17 La Societe des Forty Hommes et eight Chevaux or the Marine Corps League, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Air Force Association, or 18 19 the insignia or emblem of the Knights of Columbus, or the badge, shield, 20 emblem or name of the Police Conference of New York, Inc., or the badge, 21 shield, emblem or name of the New York State Association of Chiefs 22 Police, or the shield of the Westchester County Police Conference or the 23 badge, shield, emblem or name of the New York State Fire Fighters Association, or the badge, shield, emblem or name of the Policemen's Benevo-24 25 lent Association of Westchester County, Inc., or the badge, 26 emblem or name of the Metropolitan Police Conference of Eastern New York, Inc., or the badge, shield, emblem or name of the Nassau Police 27 28 Conference, Inc., or the badge, shield, emblem or name of the Interna-29 tional Veterans Boxers Association, or the badge, shield, emblem, insig-30 nia or name of the Grand council of Guardians, Inc., or the badge, shield, emblem or name of the New York Veteran Police Association, or 31 32 the insignia, emblem, badge, banner, button of Grand Lodge of the State 33 of New York, Order Sons of Italy in America, Incorporated, or any subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge of the State of New York, Order Sons of Italy in America, Incorporated, or the insignia, emblem, badge, banner, 34 35 Lodges, Grand Lodge of the State of New York, Order 36 button of Ladies' 37 Sons of Italy in America, Incorporated, or the badge, banner, insignia, button or emblem of any clan of the United Scottish Clans of New York 38 and New Jersey, or the insignia, emblem, badge, banner or button of 39 40 Ladies Auxiliary, Italian American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, or the Civil Air Patrol, Inc., or the insignia, emblem, 41 badge, banner or button of the Order of the American Hellenic Educa-42 tional Progressive Association, Incorporated, or the insignia, 43 44 badge, banner or button of the Polish Legion of American Veterans or 45 Ladies Auxiliary of Polish Legion of American Veterans, or the insignia, emblem, badge, banner, or button of the Veterans of World War I 46 47 United States of America Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India 48 Veterans Association, Inc., Polish - American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, 49 50 nectady, N. Y., Inc., World War Veterans Club of Lindenhurst, Inc., the 51 Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, the Vietnam Veterans of America, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC., the Army and Navy Union of the United 52 States, the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., Regular Veterans Associ-53 54 ation, Inc., the 369th Veterans Association, Inc., the Tri-County Coun-55 cil of Vietnam Veterans, the National Congress of Puerto Rican Veterans, 56 the Fleet Reserve Association, or the badge, insignia, rosette or

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button of any society, order or organization of ten years standing in the state of New York, or uses the same, or the name of any such society, order or organization by falsely representing himself to be a member thereof in good standing, to obtain, or in attempting to obtain, aid or assistance within the state, or wilfully uses the names of any such society, order or organization, or the titles of its officers, or uses 5 6 7 its insignia or emblems, or the forms or designs thereof, or its ritual 8 ceremonies unless entitled to use or wear the same under the constitution and by-laws, rules, and regulations of such order or of such 9 10 society, order or organization, is guilty of a violation punishable by a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars. 11 12

- 12. Subdivision 1 of section 452 of the real property tax law, as amended by chapter 610 of the laws of 1960, is amended to read as follows:
- 15 1. Real property owned by a corporation, association or post composed 16 of veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 17 Disabled American Veterans, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Jewish 18 War Veterans of the United States, Inc., Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the American Legion, AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Italian 19 American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, Masonic War 20 21 Veterans of the State of New York, Incorporated, VIETNAM VETERANS OF 22 AMERICA, VETERANS OF MODERN WARFARE, INC. and any other corporation or 23 association of veterans of the armed forces of the United States in any actually and exclusively used and occupied by such corporation, 24 25 association or post shall be exempt from taxation and exempt from 26 special ad valorem levies and special assessments to the extent provided in section four hundred ninety of this chapter. S 13. This act shall take effect immediately. 27
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