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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:

1 Section 1. Article 17-A of the executive law is amended by adding a
2 new section 369-f to read as follows:
3 S 369-F. HIRE A VET GRANT. 1. ALLOWANCE OF GRANT. A MUNICIPALITY SHALL
4 BE ALLOWED A GRANT EQUIVALENT TO THE CREDIT PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE TAXPAY-
5 ERS IN THE "HIRE A VET CREDIT" AS ESTABLISHED IN SUBDIVISION TWENTY-NINE
6 OF SECTION 210-B OF THE TAX LAW, WHERE SUCH MUNICIPALITY HIRES AND
7 EMPLOYS, FOR NOT LESS THAN ONE YEAR AND FOR NOT LESS THAN THIRTY-FIVE
8 HOURS EACH WEEK, A QUALIFIED VETERAN WITHIN THE STATE. THE MUNICIPALITY
9 MAY CLAIM THE GRANT IN THE YEAR IN WHICH THE QUALIFIED VETERAN COMPLETES
10 ONE YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE MUNICIPALITY.
11 2. QUALIFIED VETERAN. A QUALIFIED VETERAN IS AN INDIVIDUAL:
12 (A) WHO SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, NAVY, AIR
13 FORCE, MARINE CORPS, COAST GUARD OR THE RESERVES THEREOF, OR WHO SERVED
14 IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMY
15 NATIONAL GUARD, AIR NATIONAL GUARD, NEW YORK GUARD OR NEW YORK NAVAL
16 MILITIA; WHO WAS RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY BY GENERAL OR HONORABLE
17 DISCHARGE AFTER SEPTEMBER ELEVENTH, TWO THOUSAND ONE;
18 (B) WHO COMMENCES EMPLOYMENT WITH THE MUNICIPALITY ON OR AFTER JANUARY
19 FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN; AND
20 (C) WHO CERTIFIES BY SIGNED AFFIDAVIT, UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, THAT
21 HE OR SHE HAS NOT BEEN EMPLOYED FOR THIRTY-FIVE OR MORE HOURS DURING ANY
22 WEEK IN THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAY PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS OR
23 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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1 3. PROHIBITION. A MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT DISCHARGE AN EMPLOYEE AND
2 HIRE A QUALIFYING VETERAN SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUALIFYING FOR THIS
3 GRANT.

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

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

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

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