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

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2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 21, 2015

Introduced by Sen. MARTINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to the definition of veteran

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 384 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

(e) "Veteran" means a person (i) who served in the active military, naval, or air service during a period of war, or who was a recipient of the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary medal, and who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, (ii) who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant seaman documented by the United States Coast Guard or Department of Commerce, or as a civil servant employed by the United States Army Transport Service (later redesignated as the United States Army Transportation Corps, Water Division) or the Naval Transportation Service; and who served satisfactorily as a crew member during the period of armed conflict, December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one, to August fifteenth, nineteen hundred forty-five, aboard merchant vessels in oceangoing, i.e., foreign, intercoastal, or coastwise service as such terms are defined under federal law (46 USCA 10301 & 10501) and further to include "near foreign" voyages between the United States and Canada, Mexico, or the West Indies via ocean routes, or public vessels in oceangoing service or foreign waters and who has received a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and a discharge certificate, or an Honorable Service Certificate/Report of Casualty, from the department of

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

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defense, (iii) who served as a United States civilian employed by the American Field Service and served overseas under United States Armies and United States Army Groups in world war II during the period of armed conflict, December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one through May eighth, nineteen hundred forty-five, and who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, (iv) who served as a United States civilian Flight Crew and Aviation Ground Support Employee of Pan American World Airways or one of its subsidiaries or its affiliates and served overseas as a result of Pan American's contract with Air Transport Command or Naval Air Transport Service during the period of armed conflict, December fourteenth, nineteen hundred forty-one through August fourteenth, nineteen hundred forty-five, and who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, [or] (v) notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, who are members of the reserve components of the armed forces of the United States who received an honorable discharge or release therefrom under honorable conditions, but are still members of the reserve components of the armed forces of the United States provided that such members meet all other qualifications under the provisions of this section, OR (VI) WHO AS A MEMBER OF THE RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WERE DEEMED ON ACTIVE DUTY UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 11519 SIGNED MARCH TWENTY-THIRD, NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY, 35 FEDERAL REGISTER 5003, DATED MARCH TWENTY-FOURTH, NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY AND LATER DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AS OPERATION GRAPHIC HAND, AND SUCH MEMBER WAS DISCHARGED OR RELEASED THEREFROM UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS, PROVIDED THAT SUCH MEMBER MEET ALL OTHER QUALIFICATIONS OF THIS SECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.