STATE OF NEW YORK

6771

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 8, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. PHEFFER AMATO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to creating a pilot program to examine the effects of waiving the state civil service examination fee; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 5 of section 50 of the civil service law, as amended by section 35 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the state civil service department, subject to the approval of the director of the budget, a municipal commission, subject to the approval of the governing board or body of the city or county, as the case may be, or a regional commission or personnel officer, pursuant to governmental agreement, may elect to waive application fees, or to abolish fees for specific classes of positions or types of examinations or candidates, or to establish a uniform schedule of reasonable fees different from those prescribed in paragraph (a) of this subdivision, specifying in such schedule the classes of positions or types of examinations or candidates to which such fees shall apply; provided, however, that fees shall be waived for candidates who certify to the state civil service department, a municipal commission or a regional commission that they are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household, or are receiving public assistance. Provided further, the state civil service department shall waive the state application fee for examinations for original appointment for all veterans. **Provided further, the state civil service department shall, and a municipal commission may, subject to the approval of the governing board or body of the city or county, as the case may be, or a regional commission or**

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

LBD07722-01-3

personnel officer, pursuant to governmental agreement, waive the application fee for all examinations held between July first, two thousand twenty-three and December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-six. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of this section, the term "veteran" shall mean a person who has served in the armed forces of the United States or the reserves thereof, or in the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard, or the New York naval militia, and who (1) has been honorably discharged or released from such service under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the veterans' services law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the veterans' services law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service. The term "armed forces" shall mean the army, navy, air force, marine corps, and coast guard.

§ 2. The department of civil service shall study and produce an annual report by July 1, 2024 and annually thereafter, until July 1, 2028, covering the previous year, regarding the impact of waiving civil service application fees and shall deliver a copy of such report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and speaker of the assembly. Such report shall contain information comparing the reporting year to previous years regarding:

1. The number of applications for civil service examinations broken down by employer, job title, and examination type;

2. The number of new hires in all state agencies and municipalities; and

3. Demographic information on applicants, including sex, race, age, geography, and educational attainment.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on April 1, 2023 and shall expire and be deemed repealed July 1, 2028; provided, however, if section 35 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 has not taken effect on or before such date, then this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as such section of such part of such chapter of the laws of 2022, takes effect.