

STATE OF NEW YORK

6559

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to the estab-
lishing a veterans' bill of rights

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

1 Section 1. The veterans' services law is amended by adding a new
2 section 29-c to read as follows:

3 § 29-c. Veterans' bill of rights. 1. The department shall establish,
4 print, publish and distribute a veterans' bill of rights. Such bill of
5 rights shall include the following or substantially similar text:

6 "VETERANS' BILL OF RIGHTS

7 You as a veteran have a right:

8 1. To apply for veterans' benefits;

9 2. To receive assistance from your local state veterans' service agen-
10 cy and all offices of the New York state department of veterans'
11 services;

12 3. To receive an explanation of the services and benefits available
13 under federal and New York state laws, rules and regulations;

14 4. To receive written notice and an explanation of the approval or
15 denial of your application for benefits available under New York state
16 law;

17 5. To be treated with dignity and respect;

18 6. To appeal any adverse determination or denial of your application
19 for services or benefits available under New York state law;

20 7. To expect confidentiality;

21 8. To receive fair and equal treatment without regard to sex, race,
22 religion, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or national origin; and

23 9. To be informed of assistance provided to veterans in the state of
24 New York including but not limited to: legal services; educational
25 opportunities; tax benefits, including real property and personal taxes;

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

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1 and New York state driver's license and non-driver identification
2 cards."

3 2. The department shall make the veterans' bill of rights available on
4 the department's website.

5 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
6 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment,
7 and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation
8 of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
9 completed on or before such effective date.