STATE OF NEW YORK

8967

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

August 13, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, the banking law, the cannabis law, the county law, the economic development law, the correction law, the civil service law, the domestic relations law, the education law, the election law, the environmental conservation law, the executive law, the general business law, the general construction law, the general municipal law, the highway law, the insurance law, the judiciary law, the labor law, the mental hygiene law, the military law, the not-for-profit corporation law, the parks, recreation, and historic preservation law, the public housing law, the public health law, the public officers law, the private housing finance law, the real property tax law, the social services law, the state finance law, the state technology law, the tax law, the town law, the vehicle and traffic law, the workers' compensation law, chapter 784 of the laws of 1951, constituting the New York state defense emergency act, chapter 174 of the laws of 1968, constituting the New York state urban development corporation act, the administrative code of the city of New York, and the New York city charter, in relation to renaming the veterans' services law the veterans and military families law, renaming the department of veterans' services the department of veterans and military families, and requiring the department of veterans and military families to provide certain services to military families

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

Section 1. The chapter heading of chapter 13 of the consolidated laws is amended to read as follows:

[~~VETERANS' SERVICES~~] **VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES**

§ 2. The article heading of article 1 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF [~~VETERANS' SERVICES~~] **VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES**

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

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§ 3. Subdivision 1 of section 1 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

1. The term "department" means the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families.

§ 4. Section 2 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

§ 2. Department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families. There is hereby created a department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families. The head of such department shall be the New York state commissioner of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families who shall be a veteran. [~~He or she~~] The commissioner shall be appointed by the governor and shall hold office [~~during his or her~~] at the governor's pleasure. Such state commissioner shall receive an annual salary to be fixed by the governor within the limitation provided by law. [~~He or she~~] The commissioner shall also be entitled to receive [~~his or her~~] expenses actually and necessarily incurred by [~~him or her~~] them in the performance of [~~his or her~~] their duties. The state commissioner, with the approval of the governor, may establish such bureaus within the department as are necessary and appropriate to carrying out its functions and may consolidate or abolish such bureaus. The [~~state~~] commissioner may appoint such officers, consultants, clerks and other employees and agents as [~~he or she~~] they may deem necessary, fix their compensation within the limitation provided by law, and prescribe their duties.

§ 5. Subdivision 10 of section 4 of the veterans' services law is amended and four new subdivisions 40, 41, 42, and 43 are added to read as follows:

10. To prepare and submit a report, in consultation with the office of temporary and disability assistance, department of labor, and office of children and family services to determine the number of homeless persons in New York state that are veterans. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information to the extent it is reasonably accessible to the department: (a) an analysis of veterans in New York state who are currently homeless, or have been homeless within five years of being released from active duty including an analysis of gender as it relates to homelessness of veterans; (b) data on the number of children of homeless veterans, including the current placement of such children; (c) cases of military sexual trauma experienced by homeless veterans while on active duty or during military training, including a breakdown of the collected data based upon the gender of the victim; and (d) the unemployment rate for New York state veterans. The term "children of homeless veterans" shall mean a person who is unmarried and who is under the age of eighteen years, and is the biological or legally adopted child of a veteran. The report shall be delivered to the governor, the speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the senate by June thirtieth, two thousand twenty and every three years thereafter. Such report shall be publicly available and posted on the [~~department of veterans' services~~] department's website.

40. To serve as liaison between the families of uniformed services personnel and the department of defense.

41. To provide information to uniformed services families on family assistance programs that are available from the state and federal government.

42. To ensure that the families of uniformed services personnel receive appropriate support and assistance.

43. To coordinate with family liaison officers designated under section nineteen-a of the military law to provide assistance to the families of those uniformed services personnel who have been deployed for active military duty.

§ 6. Section 7 of the veterans' services law, as amended by chapter 449 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

§ 7. Information on status of veterans receiving assistance. Departments, divisions, bureaus, boards, commissions and agencies of the state and political subdivisions thereof, which provide assistance, treatment, counseling, care, supervision or custody in service areas involving health, mental health, family services, criminal justice or employment, including but not limited to the office of addiction services and supports, office of mental health, office of probation and correctional alternatives, office of children and family services, office of temporary and disability assistance, department of health, department of labor, local workforce investment boards, office for people with developmental disabilities, and department of corrections and community supervision, shall request assisted persons to provide information with regard to their veteran status and military experiences. Individuals identifying themselves as veterans, including individuals requesting and obtaining a veteran notation on such individual's driver's license or non-driver identification card pursuant to sections four hundred ninety and five hundred two of the vehicle and traffic law, shall be advised that the department [~~of veterans' services~~] and local veterans' service agencies established pursuant to section fourteen of this article provide assistance to veterans regarding benefits under federal and state law. Information regarding veterans status and military service provided by assisted persons solely to implement this section shall be protected as personal confidential information under article six-A of the public officers law against disclosure of confidential material, and used only to assist in the diagnosis, treatment, assessment and handling of the veteran's problems within the agency requesting such information and in referring the veteran to the department [~~of veterans' services~~] for information and assistance with regard to benefits and entitlements under federal and state law.

§ 7. Subdivision 2 of section 11 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

2. Individuals identifying themselves as having served in the military or a family member shall be advised that the department [~~of veterans' services~~] and local veterans service agencies established pursuant to section seventeen of this article provide assistance to veterans regarding benefits under federal and state law. Information regarding veterans and military status provided by assisted persons solely to implement this section shall be protected as personal confidential material, and used only to assist in the diagnosis, treatment, assessment and handling of the veteran's or family member's problems within the agency requesting such information and in referring the veteran or family member to the department [~~of veterans' services~~] for the information and assistance with regard to benefits and entitlements under federal and state law.

§ 8. Subdivision 1 of section 19 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

1. [~~Definitions. (a) "Veteran" shall have the same meaning as defined in section one of this article.~~

~~(b) "Department" shall mean the state department of veterans' services.~~

~~(c) "Women veterans coordinator"~~] **The women veterans coordinator** shall be a veteran.

§ 9. The opening paragraph of paragraph (a) of subdivision 9 and subdivision 10 of section 20 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

support and assist the department [~~of veterans' services~~] and the women veterans coordinator pursuant to section nineteen of this article in:

10. The department [~~of veterans' services~~] shall help support the committee's activities.

§ 10. Paragraph a of subdivision 1 of section 21 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

a. Any veteran as defined in this article who has been or is hereafter classified by the New York State commission for the visually handicapped as a blind person as defined in section three of chapter four hundred fifteen of the laws of nineteen hundred thirteen, as amended, and continues to be a blind person within the meaning of that section, shall, upon application to the commissioner [~~of the department of veterans' services~~], be paid out of the treasury of the state for such term as such veteran shall be entitled thereto under the provisions of this article, the sum of one thousand dollars annually, plus any applicable annual adjustment, as provided in this section.

§ 11. The third undesignated paragraph and subparagraph (i) of paragraph paragraph (a-2) of subdivision 2 of section 24 of the veterans' services law are amended to read as follows:

The legislature additionally finds and determines that it is therefore necessary to provide for the construction and establishment of one or more New York state veterans' cemeteries, and that to thereafter, provide for the expansion, improvement, support, operation, maintenance and the provision of perpetual care of all such cemeteries so constructed and established. The legislature also finds and determines that it is appropriate to have the responsibility for the construction, establishment, expansion, improvement, support, operation, maintenance and the provision of perpetual care for veterans' cemeteries in this state, to be under the oversight and direction of the state department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families**, and its commissioner, individually, and as chair of the management board, for each such veterans' cemetery so constructed and established.

(i) The commissioner [~~of the department of veterans' services~~], or [~~his or her~~] **their** representative;

§ 12. Subdivision 1 of section 29 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

1. The department, in cooperation with the office of temporary and disability assistance and any other state department, office, division or agency the department deems necessary, shall require that all intake forms for admission or residency to any temporary shelter that is reimbursed from state or state-administered grants or funds shall ask an applicant: "Have you or anyone in your household ever been in the United States military?". Each social services district or social services district's designee shall in writing advise all individuals applying for temporary housing assistance and identifying themselves as having been in the United States military that the department [~~of veterans' services~~] and local veterans' service agencies established pursuant to section fourteen of this article provide assistance to veterans regarding benefits available under federal and state law. Such written information shall include the name, address and telephone number of the [~~New~~

~~York state~~] department [~~of veterans' services~~], the nearest department [~~of veterans' services~~] office, the nearest county or city veterans' service agency and the nearest accredited veterans' service officer. Each social services district or social services district's designee, with the permission of such individual's identifying themself as a veteran, shall transmit such veteran's status information to the department [~~of veterans' services~~].

§ 13. Subdivision 3 of section 34 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

3. establish and maintain, together with the commissioner [~~of the department of veterans' services~~], a program to educate separating service members as to the benefits available to veterans under this article.

§ 14. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 4 of section 41 of the veterans' services law is amended to read as follows:

(c) Evaluate and assess availability of firms for the purpose of increasing participation of such firms in state contracting in consultation with relevant state entities including, but not limited to, the [~~New York state~~] department [~~of veterans' services~~].

§ 15. Section 6-p of the banking law, as added by chapter 102 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

§ 6-p. Loan counseling for mortgages guaranteed by the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. Every mortgage lending institution and mortgage banker which originates loans secured by real property used for residential purposes located in this state which are to be guaranteed under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 shall provide a separate disclosure form with each application stating that a veteran seeking a housing loan under chapter 37 of title 38 of the United States Code has been offered loan counseling services. Such loan counseling services shall be provided by the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families under section twenty-nine-a of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law upon request of an applicant. The disclosure form required by this section shall be signed by each applicant and shall include information detailing how to access such counseling services.

§ 16. Paragraph (f) of subdivision 5 of section 87 of the cannabis law, as amended by section 29 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(f) "Service-disabled veterans" shall mean persons qualified under article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law.

§ 17. Section 831 of the county law, as amended by section 32 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 831. Soldier burial plots in Dutchess county. The legislature of the county of Dutchess may authorize the purchase of burial plots and provide for marker settings and perpetual care and maintenance of such plots in one or more of the cemeteries of the county of Dutchess for deceased veterans, who, at the time of death, were residents of the county of Dutchess and who (i) were discharged from the armed forces of the United States either honorably or under honorable circumstances, or (ii) had a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, or (iii) were a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge

other than bad conduct or dishonorable. The expense thereof shall be a county charge.

§ 18. Subdivision 6 of section 210 of the economic development law, as amended by section 33 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

6. "Veteran" shall mean a person who served in the United States army, navy, air force, marines, coast guard, and/or reserves thereof, and/or in the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard and/or New York naval militia and who (a) has received an honorable or general discharge from such service, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 19. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (a) of section 42 of the correction law, as amended by section 34 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. There shall be within the commission a citizen's policy and complaint review council. It shall consist of nine persons to be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. One person so appointed shall have served in the armed forces of the United States in any foreign war, conflict or military occupation, who (i) was discharged therefrom under other than dishonorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or shall be a duly licensed mental health professional who has professional experience or training with regard to post-traumatic stress syndrome. One person so appointed shall be an attorney admitted to practice in this state. One person so appointed shall be a former incarcerated individual of a correctional facility. One person so appointed shall be a former correction officer. One person so appointed shall be a former resident of a division for youth secure center or a health care professional duly licensed to practice in this state. One person so appointed shall be a former employee of the office of children and family services who has directly supervised youth in a secure residential center operated by such office. In addition, the governor shall designate one of the full-time members other than the chair of the commission as chair of the council to serve as such at the pleasure of the governor.

§ 20. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 5 of section 50 of the civil service law, as amended by section 1 of part EE of chapter 55 of the laws of 2023, 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 personnel officer, pursuant to governmental agreement, waive application fees for all examinations held between July first, two thousand twenty-three and December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-five. 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~~] **veterans and military families** 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~~] **veterans and military families** 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.

§ 20-a. 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. 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~~] **veterans and military families** 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~~] veterans and military families 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.

§ 21. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 75 of the civil service law, as amended by section 36 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) a person holding a position by permanent appointment or employment in the classified service of the state or in the several cities, counties, towns, or villages thereof, or in any other political or civil division of the state or of a municipality, or in the public school service, or in any public or special district, or in the service of any authority, commission or board, or in any other branch of public service, who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from the armed forces of the United States including (i) having a qualifying condition as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (ii) being a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, having served therein as such member in time of war as defined in section eighty-five of this chapter, or who is an exempt volunteer firefighter as defined in the general municipal law, except when a person described in this paragraph holds the position of private secretary, cashier or deputy of any official or department, or

§ 22. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 85 of the civil service law, as separately amended by section 37 of part PP of chapter 56 and chapter 669 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The terms "veteran" and "non-disabled veteran" mean a member of the armed forces of the United States who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service including (i) having a qualifying condition as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (ii) being a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, who is a citizen of the United States or a noncitizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States and who is a resident of the state of New York at the time of application for appointment or promotion or at the time of retention, as the case may be.

§ 23. Section 86 of the civil service law, as amended by section 38 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 86. Transfer of veterans or exempt volunteer firefighters upon abolition of positions. If the position in the non-competitive or in the labor class held by any honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States or by any veteran of the armed forces of the United States released under honorable circumstances from such service including (i) having a qualifying condition as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (ii) being a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and receiving a

discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, who served therein in time of war as defined in section eighty-five of this chapter, or by an exempt volunteer firefighter as defined in the general municipal law, shall become unnecessary or be abolished for reasons of economy or otherwise, the honorably discharged veteran or exempt volunteer firefighter holding such position shall not be discharged from the public service but shall be transferred to a similar position wherein a vacancy exists, and shall receive the same compensation therein. It is hereby made the duty of all persons clothed with the power of appointment to make such transfer effective. The right to transfer herein conferred shall continue for a period of one year following the date of abolition of the position, and may be exercised only where a vacancy exists in an appropriate position to which transfer may be made at the time of demand for transfer. Where the positions of more than one such veteran or exempt volunteer firefighter are abolished and a lesser number of vacancies in similar positions exist to which transfer may be made, the veterans or exempt volunteer firefighters whose positions are abolished shall be entitled to transfer to such vacancies in the order of their original appointment in the service. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to the position of private secretary, cashier or deputy of any official or department. This section shall have no application to persons encompassed by section eighty-a of this chapter.

§ 24. Section 13-b of the domestic relations law, as separately amended by section 39 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 and chapter 68 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

§ 13-b. Time within which marriage may be solemnized. A marriage shall not be solemnized within twenty-four hours after the issuance of the marriage license, unless authorized by an order of a court of record as hereinafter provided, nor shall it be solemnized after sixty days from the date of the issuance of the marriage license unless authorized pursuant to section ten of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law. Every license to marry hereafter issued by a town or city clerk, in addition to other requirements specified by this chapter, must contain a statement of the day and the hour the license is issued and the period during which the marriage may be solemnized. It shall be the duty of the [~~clergyman~~] clergyperson, magistrate, or one-day marriage officiant, as designated by a town or city clerk pursuant to section eleven-d of this article, performing the marriage ceremony, or if the marriage is solemnized by written contract, of the judge before whom the contract is acknowledged, to annex to or endorse upon the marriage license the date and hour the marriage is solemnized. A judge or justice of the supreme court of this state or the county judge of the county in which either party to be married resides, or the judge of the family court of such county, if it shall appear from an examination of the license and any other proofs submitted by the parties that one of the parties is in danger of imminent death, or by reason of other emergency public interest will be promoted thereby, or that such delay will work irreparable injury or great hardship upon the contracting parties, or one of them, may, make an order authorizing the immediate solemnization of the marriage and upon filing such order with the [~~clergyman~~] clergyperson, magistrate, or one-day marriage officiant performing the marriage ceremony, or if the marriage is to be solemnized by written contract, with the judge before whom the contract is acknowledged, such [~~clergyman~~] clergyperson, magistrate or such one-day marriage officiant may solemnize such marriage, or such judge may take such acknowledgment as the case may be, without waiting for such three day period and twen-

ty-four hour period to elapse. The [~~clergyman~~] clergyperson, magistrate, judge, or such one-day marriage officiant, as designated by a town or city clerk pursuant to section eleven-d of this article, must file such order with the town or city clerk who issued the license within five days after the marriage is solemnized. Such town or city clerk must record and index the order in the book required to be kept by [~~him or her~~] them for recording affidavits, statements, consents and licenses, and when so recorded the order shall become a public record and available in any prosecution under this section. A person who shall solemnize a marriage in violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars for each offense, and in addition thereto, [~~his or her~~] their right to solemnize a marriage shall be suspended for ninety days.

§ 25. Paragraph a of subdivision 3 of section 14-a of the domestic relations law, as amended by section 3 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

a. No fee shall be charged for any certificate when required by the United States department of veterans affairs or by the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families of the state of New York to be used in determining the eligibility of any person to participate in the benefits made available by the United States department of veterans affairs or by the state of New York.

§ 26. Subdivision 1 of section 19 of the domestic relations law, as amended by section 4 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. Each town and city clerk hereby empowered to issue marriage licenses shall keep a book supplied by the state department of health in which such clerk shall record and index such information as is required therein, which book shall be kept and preserved as a part of the public records of [~~his or her~~] their office. Whenever an application is made for a search of such records the city or town clerk, excepting the city clerk of the city of New York, may make such search and furnish a certificate of the result to the applicant upon the payment of a fee of five dollars for a search of one year and a further fee of one dollar for the second year for which such search is requested and fifty cents for each additional year thereafter, which fees shall be paid in advance of such search. Whenever an application is made for a search of such records in the city of New York, the city clerk of the city of New York may make such search and furnish a certificate of the result to the applicant upon the payment of a fee of five dollars for a search of one year and a further fee of one dollar for the second year for which search is requested and fifty cents each additional year thereafter. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, no fee shall be charged for any search or certificate when required by the United States department of veterans affairs or by the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families of the state of New York to be used in determining the eligibility of any person to participate in the benefits made available by the United States department of veterans affairs or by the state of New York. All such affidavits, statements and consents, immediately upon the taking or receiving of the same by the town or city clerk, shall be recorded and indexed as provided herein and shall be public records and open to public inspection whenever the same may be necessary or required for judicial or other proper purposes. At such times as the commissioner shall direct, the said town or city clerk, excepting the city clerk of the city of New York, shall file in the office of the state department of health the original of each affi-

davit, statement, consent, order of a justice or judge authorizing immediate solemnization of marriage, license and certificate, filed with or made before such clerk during the preceding month. Such clerk shall not be required to file any of said documents with the state department of health until the license is returned with the certificate showing that the marriage to which they refer has been actually performed.

The county clerks of the counties comprising the city of New York shall cause all original applications and original licenses with the marriage solemnization statements thereon heretofore filed with each, and all papers and records and binders relating to such original documents pertaining to marriage licenses issued by said city clerk, in their custody and possession to be removed, transferred, and delivered to the borough offices of the city clerk in each of said counties.

§ 27. Paragraph c of subdivision 1 of section 360 of the education law, as amended by section 40 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

c. Adopt and enforce campus rules and regulations not inconsistent with the vehicle and traffic law relating to parking, vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and safety. Such rules and regulations may include provisions for the disposition of abandoned vehicles, removal by towing or otherwise of vehicles parked in violation of such rules at the expense of the owner, the payment of fees for the registration or parking of such vehicles, provided that such campus rules and regulations may provide that any veteran attending the state university as a student shall be exempt from any fees for parking or registering a motor vehicle, and the assessment of administrative fines upon the owner or operator of such vehicles for each violation of the regulations. However, no such fine may be imposed without a hearing or an opportunity to be heard conducted by an officer or board designated by the board of trustees. Such fines, in the case of an officer or employee of state university, may be deducted from the salary or wages of such officer or employee found in violation of such regulations, or in the case of a student of state university found in violation of such regulations, the university may withhold [~~his or her~~] **their** grades and transcripts until such time as any fine is paid. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "veteran" shall mean a member of the armed forces of the United States who served in such armed forces in time of war and who (i) was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 28. The opening paragraph of subdivision 6, subdivision 7, paragraph c of subdivision 9, the opening paragraph of paragraph a of subdivision 10, and the opening paragraph of paragraph a of subdivision 10-a of section 503 of the education law, as amended by section 41 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

Credit for service in war after world war I, which shall mean military service during the period commencing the first day of July, nineteen hundred forty, and terminating the thirtieth day of June, nineteen hundred forty-seven, or during the period commencing the twenty-seventh day of June, nineteen hundred fifty, and terminating the thirty-first day of January, nineteen hundred fifty-five, or during both such peri-

ods, as a member of the armed forces of the United States, of any person who (i) has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or service by one who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense or 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 (iv) who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or 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 (vii) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (viii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (ix) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who was a teacher in the public schools of this state at the time of [~~his or her~~] their entrance into the armed forces of the United States, provided no compensation was received under the provisions of section two hundred forty-two of the military law, and who returned to public school teaching following discharge or completion of advanced education provided under servicemen's readjustment act of nineteen hundred forty-four, or who following

such discharge or release entered into a service which would qualify [~~him or her~~] them pursuant to section forty-three of the retirement and social security law to transfer [~~his or her~~] their membership in the New York state teachers' retirement system, shall be provided as follows, any provisions of section two hundred forty-three of the military law to the contrary notwithstanding.

7. A teacher, who was a member of the New York state teachers retirement system but who withdrew [~~his or her~~] their accumulated contributions immediately prior to [~~his or her~~] their entry into, or during [~~his or her~~] their service in the armed forces of the United States in war after World War I, who (i) has been honorably discharged or released from service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, provided no compensation was received under the provisions of section two hundred forty-two of the military law, and who returned to public school teaching in the state of New York following such discharge or release, or following completion of advanced education provided under servicemen's readjustment act of nineteen hundred forty-four, any provisions of section two hundred forty-three of the military law to the contrary notwithstanding, will be entitled to credit for service in war after World War I, cost free, provided, however, that such credit will not be allowed until [~~he or she claims and pays~~] they claim and pay for all prior teaching service credited to [~~him or her~~] them at the time of [~~his or her~~] their termination of membership in the New York state teachers retirement system, and provided further that claim for such service in war after World War I shall be filed by the member with the retirement board before the first day of July, nineteen hundred sixty-eight.

c. (i) has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and

In addition to credit for military service pursuant to section two hundred forty-three of the military law and subdivisions six through nine of this section, a member employed as a full-time teacher by an employer as defined in subdivision three of section five hundred one of this article and who joined the retirement system prior to July first, nineteen hundred seventy-three, may obtain credit for military service not in excess of three years and not otherwise creditable under section two hundred forty-three of the military law and subdivisions six through nine of this section, rendered on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during the period commencing July first, nineteen hundred forty, and terminating December thirty-first, nineteen hundred forty-six, or on service by one who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense or on service by one 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or on service by one 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 (iv) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, by a person who was a resident of New York state at the time of entry into such service and at the time of being discharged therefrom under honorable circumstances, and who makes the payments required in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision.

In addition to credit for military service pursuant to section two hundred forty-three of the military law and subdivisions six through nine of this section, a member who joined the retirement system prior to July first, nineteen hundred seventy-three, and who was not eligible for credit for military service under subdivision ten of this section as a result of being on a leave of absence without pay between July twentieth, nineteen hundred seventy-six and October fifteenth, nineteen hundred seventy-seven or on leave of absence with less than full pay between July twentieth, nineteen hundred seventy-six and October fifteenth, nineteen hundred seventy-seven, may obtain credit for military service not in excess of three years and not otherwise creditable under section two hundred forty-three of the military law and subdivisions six through nine of this section, rendered on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during the period commencing July first, nineteen hundred forty, and terminating December thirty-first,

nineteen hundred forty-six, or on service by one who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense, or on service by one 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or on service by one 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 (iv) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, by a person who was a resident of New York state at the time of entry into such service and at the time of being discharged therefrom under honorable circumstances, and who makes the payments required in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision.

§ 29. Subdivision 5 of section 605 of the education law, as amended by section 42 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

5. Regents scholarships for war veterans. Regents scholarships for war veterans shall be awarded on a competitive basis, for study beginning with the college year nineteen hundred seventy-five--nineteen hundred seventy-six. Six hundred such scholarships shall be awarded in such year to veterans of the armed forces of the United States who have served on active duty (other than for training) between October one, nineteen hundred sixty-one and March twenty-nine, nineteen hundred seventy-three,

and who on the date by which applications are required to be submitted (a) have been released from such active duty on conditions not other than honorable, or (b) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service. Such scholarships shall be allocated to each county in the state in the same ratio that the number of legal residents in such county, as determined by the most recent federal census, bears to the total number of residents in the state; provided, however, that no county shall be allocated fewer scholarships than such county received during the year nineteen hundred sixty-eight--sixty-nine.

§ 30. Subparagraph 3 of paragraph b of subdivision 3 of section 663 of the education law, as amended by section 43 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The applicant was enlisted in full time active military service in the armed forces of the United States and (i) has been honorably discharged from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and, provided, however, that the applicant has not and will not be claimed as a dependent by either parent for purposes of either federal or state income tax.

§ 31. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 and paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 668 of the education law, as amended by section 44 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

(b) December seven, nineteen hundred forty-one to December thirty-one, nineteen hundred forty-six, or have been employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense or have 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veter-

ans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or have 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 (iv) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

(b) (i) is an honorably discharged veteran of the United States or member of the armed forces of the United States, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, who is a resident of the state of New York, and who has a current disability of forty percent or more as a result of an injury or illness which is incurred or was incurred during such military service; or

§ 32. Subdivision 1 of section 668-c of the education law, as amended by section 45 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. Eligible students. Awards shall be made to Vietnam veterans' resident children born with Spina Bifida enrolled in approved undergraduate or graduate programs at degree granting institutions. For the purpose of this section, "Vietnam veteran" shall mean a person who served in Indochina at any time from the first day of November, nineteen hundred fifty-five, to and including the seventh day of May, nineteen hundred seventy-five and (a) was honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from the armed forces of the United States, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from the armed forces of the United States; "born with Spina Bifida" shall mean a diagnosis at birth of such disease inclusive of all forms, manifestations, complications and associated medical conditions thereof, but shall not include Spina Bifida Occulta. Such diagnosis shall be in accordance with the provisions of the federal Spina Bifida program and shall be documented by the United States Administration of Veterans' Affairs.

§ 33. Paragraphs a, b, c, and d of subdivision 1 of section 669-a of the education law, as amended by section 46 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

a. "Vietnam veteran" means (i) a person who is a resident of this state, (ii) who served in the armed forces of the United States in Indochina at any time from the first day of November, nineteen hundred fifty-five, to and including the seventh day of May, nineteen hundred seventy-five, and (iii) who was either discharged therefrom under honorable conditions, including but not limited to honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or general discharge, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

b. "Persian Gulf veteran" means (i) a person who is a resident of this state (ii) who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in the Persian Gulf from the second day of August, nineteen hundred ninety through the end of such hostilities, and (iii) who was either discharged therefrom under honorable conditions, including but not limited to honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or general discharge, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

c. "Afghanistan veteran" means (i) a person who is a resident of this state (ii) who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in Afghanistan from the eleventh day of September, two thousand one, to the end of such hostilities, and (iii) who was either discharged therefrom under honorable conditions, including but not limited to honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or general discharge, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

d. "Other eligible combat veteran" means: an individual who (i) is a resident of this state, (ii) served in the armed forces of the United States in hostilities that occurred after February twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred sixty-one, as evidenced by their receipt of an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, or Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, and (iii) was either discharged under honorable conditions, including but not limited to honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or general discharge, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 33-a. Paragraph d of subdivision 1 of section 669-a of the education law, as amended by chapter 453 of the laws of 2024 and subparagraph (ii)

as amended by chapter 75 of the laws of 2025, is amended to read as follows:

d. "Other eligible veteran" means: an individual who (i) is a resident of this state, (ii) served in the armed forces of the United States (1) on active duty for at least four years, or (2) in hostilities that occurred after February twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred sixty-one, as evidenced by their receipt of an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, or Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, and (iii) was either discharged under honorable conditions, including but not limited to honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or general discharge, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 34. Subdivision 1 of section 3202 of the education law, as amended by section 47 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. A person over five and under twenty-one years of age who has not received a high school diploma is entitled to attend the public schools maintained in the district in which such person resides without the payment of tuition. Provided further that such person may continue to attend the public school in such district in the same manner, if temporarily residing outside the boundaries of the district when relocation to such temporary residence is a consequence of such person's parent or person in parental relationship being called to active military duty, other than training. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the school district shall not be required to provide transportation between a temporary residence located outside of the school district and the school the child attends. A veteran of any age who shall have served as a member of the armed forces of the United States and who (a) shall have been discharged therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, may attend any of the public schools of the state upon conditions prescribed by the board of education, and such veterans shall be included in the pupil count for state aid purposes. A nonveteran under twenty-one years of age who has received a high school diploma shall be permitted to attend classes in the schools of the district in which such person resides or in a school of a board of cooperative educational services upon payment of tuition under such terms and conditions as shall be established in regulations promulgated by the commissioner; provided, however, that a school district may waive the payment of tuition for such nonveteran, but in any case such a nonveteran who has received a high school diploma shall not be counted for any state aid purposes. Nothing herein contained shall, however, require a board of education to admit a child who becomes five years of age after the school year has commenced unless [~~his or her~~] their birthday occurs on or before the first of December.

§ 35. Subdivision 1 of section 3308 of the education law, as amended by section 5 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. Each member state shall, through the creation of a state council or use of an existing body or board, provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local educational agencies and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and interstate commission activities. In New York, the state council shall include the commissioner or [~~his or her~~] their designee, the commissioner of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families or [~~his or her~~] their designee, the adjutant general of the state of New York or [~~his or her~~] their designee, a superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children appointed by the commissioner, a district superintendent of schools of a board of cooperative educational services serving an area with a high concentration of military children appointed by the commissioner, a representative from a military installation appointed by the governor, a representative of military families appointed by the governor, a public member appointed by the governor and one representative each appointed by the speaker of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate and the governor.

§ 36. Clause (h) of subparagraph 3 of paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 4402 of the education law, as amended by section 48 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(h) Provide the form developed pursuant to subdivision twenty-two of section four of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law to the parent or person in parental relation of a child designated by the committee as either disabled or emotionally disturbed.

§ 37. Subdivision 1 of section 6505-c of the education law, as amended by section 6 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. The commissioner shall develop, jointly with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, a program to facilitate articulation between participation in the military service of the United States or the military service of the state and admission to practice of a profession. The commissioner and the commissioner of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall identify, review and evaluate professional training programs offered through either the military service of the United States or the military service of the state which may, where applicable, be accepted by the department as equivalent education and training in lieu of all or part of an approved program. Particular emphasis shall be placed on the identification of military programs which have previously been deemed acceptable by the department as equivalent education and training, programs which may provide, where applicable, equivalent education and training for those professions which are critical to public health and safety and programs which may provide, where applicable, equivalent education and training for those professions for which shortages exist in the state of New York.

§ 38. Subdivision 15 of section 1-104 of the election law, as amended by section 49 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

15. The term "veterans' hospital" means any sanitarium, hospital, soldiers' and sailors' home, United States Veterans' Administration Hospital, or other home or institution, which is used, operated and conducted exclusively for the care, maintenance and treatment of persons

serving in the military or naval service or coast guard of the United States or the state of New York, or persons who (a) were honorably discharged from such service, or (b) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) are a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 39. Subdivision 4 of section 5-210 of the election law, as separately amended by section 50 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 and chapter 113 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

4. Any qualified person who has been honorably discharged from the military after the twenty-fifth day before a general election, or who has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from the military after the twenty-fifth day before a general election, or who is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from the military after the twenty-fifth day before a general election, or who has become a naturalized citizen after the twenty-fifth day before a general election may personally register at the board of elections in the county of their residence and vote in the general election held at least ten days after such registration.

§ 40. The opening paragraph of section 5-211 of the election law, as amended by section 7 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

Each agency designated as a participating agency under the provisions of this section shall implement and administer a program of distribution of voter registration forms pursuant to the provisions of this section. The following offices which provide public assistance and/or provide state funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities are hereby designated as voter registration agencies: designated as the state agencies which provide public assistance are the office of children and family services, the office of temporary and disability assistance and the department of health. Also designated as public assistance agencies are all agencies of local government that provide such assistance. Designated as state agencies that provide programs primarily engaged in providing services to people with disabilities are the department of labor, office for the aging, department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, office of mental health, office of vocational and educational services for individuals with disabilities, commission on quality of care for the mentally disabled, office for people with developmental disabilities, commission for the blind, office of addiction services and supports, the office of the advocate for the disabled and all offices which administer programs established or funded by such agencies. Additional participating agencies designated as voter registration offices are the department of state and the district offices of the workers' compensation board. Such agencies shall be required to offer voter registration forms to persons upon initial application for services, renewal or recertification for services and upon change of address relating to such services. Such agencies shall also be responsible for providing assistance to applicants in completing voter registration forms, receiving and transmitting

the completed application form from all applicants who wish to have such form transmitted to the appropriate board of elections. The state board of elections shall, together with representatives of the United States department of defense, develop and implement procedures for including recruitment offices of the armed forces of the United States as voter registration offices when such offices are so designated by federal law. The state board of elections shall also make request of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to include applications for registration by mail with any materials which are given to new citizens.

§ 41. Subdivision 16 of section 11-0305 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by section 51 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

16. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, to authorize free sport fishing clinics. A free sport fishing clinic shall include, but not be limited to, instruction provided by employees of the department or its designee in recreational angling, including its benefits and values, and may also include instruction and other information relevant to an understanding of fisheries management, ethics and aquatic ecology and habitat. No license or recreational marine fishing registration is required to take fish by angling while participating in a fishing clinic conducted by the department or its designee that has been designated by the commissioner as a free sport fishing clinic. Such clinics shall be implemented consistent with department standards and in a manner determined by the department to best provide public notice thereof and to maximize public participation therein, so as to promote the recreational opportunities afforded by sport fishing. Further, the commissioner may designate additional fishing events organized through the department that provide physical or emotional rehabilitation for veterans, as defined in subdivision three of section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, or active duty members of the armed forces of the United States. No license or recreational marine fishing registration shall be required for such veterans or active duty members to take fish by angling while participating in these events.

§ 42. Subdivision 4 of section 11-0715 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by section 52 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

4. A person, resident in the state for at least thirty days immediately prior to the date of application, who (a) has been honorably discharged from service in the armed forces of the United States, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and is certified as having a forty percent or greater service-connected disability is entitled to receive all licenses, privileges, tags, and permits authorized by this title for which [~~he or she is~~] **they are** eligible, except turkey permits, renewable each year for a five dollar fee.

§ 43. Paragraphs (o) and (p) of subdivision 5 of section 94-b of the executive law, as added by chapter 625 of the laws of 2024, are amended to read as follows:

(o) Encourage the development of and provide for the establishment of a state military immigrant family legacy program liaison, as provided in

section twenty-nine-b of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law; and

(p) Request individuals seeking assistance from the office answer the following questions: "Have you served in the United States military?" "Has someone in your family served in the United States military?" Individuals identifying themselves or a family member as "intended recipients" of the staff sergeant Alex R. Jimenez New York state military immigrant family legacy program as such term is defined in paragraph (e) of subdivision one of section [~~twenty-nine-b~~] twenty-nine-d of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, shall be advised of such program. In addition, such individuals shall be informed that the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families and local veterans' service agencies established pursuant to section seventeen of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law provide assistance to uniformed service members, veterans and their families regarding benefits available under federal and state law. Information regarding veterans and military status provided by assisted individuals shall be protected as personal confidential material, and used only to identify such individuals as "intended recipients" of the staff sergeant Alex R. Jimenez New York State military immigrant family legacy program, and to assist such individuals in matters relating to immigration status and citizenship, and in referring such individuals to the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families or local veterans' service agencies for information and assistance with regard to benefits and entitlements under federal and state law.

§ 44. Subdivision 1 of section 130 of the executive law, as amended by section 54 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. The secretary of state may appoint and commission as many notaries public for the state of New York as in [~~his or her~~] their judgment may be deemed best, whose jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the boundaries of the state. The appointment of a notary public shall be for a term of four years. An application for an appointment as notary public shall be in form and set forth such matters as the secretary of state shall prescribe. Every person appointed as notary public must, at the time of [~~his or her~~] their appointment, be a resident of the state of New York or have an office or place of business in New York state. A notary public who is a resident of the state and who moves out of the state but still maintains a place of business or an office in New York state does not vacate [~~his or her~~] their office as a notary public. A notary public who is a nonresident and who ceases to have an office or place of business in this state, vacates [~~his or her~~] their office as a notary public. A notary public who is a resident of New York state and moves out of the state and who does not retain an office or place of business in this state shall vacate [~~his or her~~] their office as a notary public. A non-resident who accepts the office of notary public in this state thereby appoints the secretary of state as the person upon whom process can be served on [~~his or her~~] their behalf. Before issuing to any applicant a commission as notary public, unless [~~he or she~~] they are be an attorney and counsellor at law duly admitted to practice in this state or a court clerk of the unified court system who has been appointed to such position after taking a civil service promotional examination in the court clerk series of titles, the secretary of state shall satisfy [~~himself or herself~~] themself that the applicant is of good moral character, has the equivalent of a common school education

and is familiar with the duties and responsibilities of a notary public; provided, however, that where a notary public applies, before the expiration of [~~his or her~~] their term, for reappointment with the county clerk or where a person whose term as notary public shall have expired applies within six months thereafter for reappointment as a notary public with the county clerk, such qualifying requirements may be waived by the secretary of state, and further, where an application for reappointment is filed with the county clerk after the expiration of the aforementioned renewal period by a person who failed or was unable to re-apply by reason of [~~his or her~~] their induction or enlistment in the armed forces of the United States, such qualifying requirements may also be waived by the secretary of state, provided such application for reappointment is made within a period of one year after the military discharge of the applicant under conditions other than dishonorable, or if the applicant has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, within a period of one year after the applicant has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or if the applicant is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, within a period of one year after the applicant has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service. In any case, the appointment or reappointment of any applicant is in the discretion of the secretary of state. The secretary of state may suspend or remove from office, for misconduct, any notary public appointed by [~~him or her~~] them but no such removal shall be made unless the person who is sought to be removed shall have been served with a copy of the charges against [~~him or her~~] them and have an opportunity of being heard. No person shall be appointed as a notary public under this article who has been convicted, in this state or any other state or territory, of a crime, unless the secretary makes a finding in conformance with all applicable statutory requirements, including those contained in article twenty-three-A of the correction law, that such convictions do not constitute a bar to appointment.

§ 45. Subdivision 1 of section 191 of the executive law, as amended by section 10 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby established within the division of military and naval affairs a temporary advisory committee on the restoration and display of New York state's military battle flags (hereinafter referred to as the "committee"). The committee shall have thirteen members as follows: the adjutant general, the director of the New York state military heritage museum, the commissioners of education and parks, recreation and historic preservation and the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, or their designated representatives, two members appointed each by the governor, speaker of the assembly and majority leader of the senate and one member each appointed by the minority leaders of the senate and assembly and shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Appointed members shall include individuals with experience in restoration of historical memorabilia, expertise in military history, or a background in historical restoration or fine arts conservation. No appointed member shall be a member of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the state government at the time of [~~his/her~~] their appointment. The advisory committee shall meet at least four times a year. No members shall receive any compensation, but members who are not state officials

may receive actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

§ 46. Subdivision 1 of section 643 of the executive law, as amended by section 11 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. As used in this section, "crime victim-related agency" means any agency of state government which provides services to or deals directly with crime victims, including (a) the office of children and family services, the office for the aging, the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, the office of probation and correctional alternatives, the department of corrections and community supervision, the office of victim services, the department of motor vehicles, the office of vocational rehabilitation, the workers' compensation board, the department of health, the division of criminal justice services, the office of mental health, every transportation authority and the division of state police, and (b) any other agency so designated by the governor within ninety days of the effective date of this section.

§ 47. Subdivision 1 of section 32 of the general business law, as amended by section 55 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. Every member of the armed forces of the United States who (a) was honorably discharged from such service, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who is a resident of this state and a veteran of any war, or who shall have served in the armed forces of the United States overseas, and the surviving spouse of any such veteran, if a resident of the state, shall have the right to hawk, peddle, vend and sell goods, wares or merchandise or solicit trade upon the streets and highways within the county of [~~his or her~~] their residence, as the case may be, or if such county is embraced wholly by a city, within such city, by procuring a license for that purpose to be issued as herein provided. No part of the lands or premises under the jurisdiction of the division of the state fair in the department of agriculture and markets, shall be deemed a street or highway within the meaning of this section.

§ 48. Section 35 of the general business law, as amended by section 56 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 35. Municipal regulations. This article shall not affect the application of any ordinance, by-law or regulation of a municipal corporation relating to hawkers and peddlers within the limits of such corporations, but the provisions of this article are to be complied with in addition to the requirements of any such ordinance, by-law or regulation; provided, however, that no such by-law, ordinance or regulation shall prevent or in any manner interfere with the hawking or peddling, without the use of any but a hand driven vehicle, in any street, avenue, alley, lane or park of a municipal corporation, by any honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States who (1) was honorably discharged from such service, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who is physically disabled as a result of injuries received while in the service of said armed forces and the holder of a license granted pursuant to section thirty-two of this article.

§ 49. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 35-a of the general business law, as amended by section 57 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In cities having a population of one million or more, the official designated by a local law or ordinance to issue a local license to hawk, peddle, vend and sell goods, wares or merchandise or solicit trade upon the streets and highways within such city shall issue specialized vending licenses to members of the armed forces of the United States who (i) were honorably discharged from such service, or (ii) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) are a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who are physically disabled as a result of injuries received while in the service of said armed forces and who are eligible to hold licenses granted pursuant to section thirty-two of this article. Such specialized vending licenses shall authorize holders thereof to hawk or peddle within such city in accordance with the provisions contained in this section. Specialized vending licenses issued under this section shall permit the holders thereof to vend on any block face, and no licensee authorized under this section shall be restricted in any way from vending in any area, except as provided in this section.

§ 50. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of section 69-p of the general business law, as amended by section 58 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In the case of persons who are or were in the military service and (i) have been or will be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, or (ii) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, the period of two years specified in subdivision one of this section need not be continuous. The length of time such person was engaged in the business of installing, servicing or maintaining security or fire alarm systems before entering the military service may be added to any period of time during which such person was or is engaged in the business of installing, servicing or maintaining security or fire alarm systems after the termination of military service.

§ 51. The closing paragraph of section 435 of the general business law, as amended by section 59 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

In the case of persons who are or were in the military service and (a) have been or will be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, or (b) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and

received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, the period of one year specified in subdivision one of this section and the period of six months specified in subdivision two of this section need not be continuous. The length of time such person was engaged in the practice of barbering before entering the military service may be added to any period of time during which such person was or is engaged in the practice of barbering after the termination of military service.

§ 52. Section 13-a of the general construction law, as amended by section 60 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 13-a. Armed forces of the United States. "Armed forces of the United States" means the army, navy, marine corps, air force and coast guard including all components thereof, and the national guard when in the service of the United States pursuant to call as provided by law. Pursuant to this definition no person shall be considered a member or veteran of the armed forces of the United States unless [~~his or her~~] **their** service therein is or was on a full-time active duty basis, other than active duty for training or [~~he or she was~~] **they were** employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] **mariner** 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 Defense or [~~he or she~~] **they** 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or [~~he or she~~] **they** 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 (iv) was discharged or

released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 53. Subdivision 1 of section 77 of the general municipal law, as amended by section 61 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. A municipal corporation may lease, for not exceeding five years, to a post or posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, Veterans of Foreign 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 Veterans of the United States, Inc., Italian American War Veterans of the United States, Incorporated, 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 Veterans, Inc., Vietnam Veterans of America or other veteran organization of members of the uniformed services of the United States who (a) were honorably discharged from such service or (b) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or to an incorporated organization or an association of either active or exempt volunteer firefighters, a public building or part 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.

§ 54. Section 99-v of the general municipal law, as amended by section 12 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 99-v. Veterans services; display of events. Each county, city, town or village may adopt a local law to provide a bulletin board to be conspicuously displayed in such county, city, town or village building holding its local legislative body or municipal offices. Such bulletin board shall be used by veterans organizations, the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, the county veterans service agency or city veterans service agency to display information regarding veterans in such county, city, town or village. Such information may include, but not be limited to, benefits or upcoming veterans related events in the community.

§ 55. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 and paragraph (a) of subdivision 1-a of section 148 of the general municipal law, paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 as amended by section 62 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 and paragraph (a) of subdivision 1-a as amended by chapter 620 of the laws of 2023, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The board of supervisors in each of the counties, or the board of estimate in the city of New York, shall designate some proper person,

association or commission, other than that designated for the care of burial of public charges or criminals, who shall cause to be interred the body of any member of the uniformed services of the United States who (i) was honorably discharged from such service or (ii) had a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) was a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or the body of any minor child or either parent, or the spouse or unremarried surviving spouse of any such member of the uniformed services of the United States, if such person shall hereafter die in a county or in the city of New York without leaving sufficient means to defray [~~his or her~~] their funeral expenses.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in the case of a veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, or who has a qualifying condition as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, or is a discharged LGBT veteran as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, who died in a county or the city of New York leaving no funds or insurance sufficient to pay funeral and burial expenses of such veteran and such veteran has no next of kin or person of record previously designated to control [~~his or her~~] their final disposition pursuant to section four thousand two hundred one of the public health law, such county or the city of New York shall request a congressionally chartered veterans' organization within the county or the city of New York where the decedent resided at the time of death, to engage the services of a funeral firm to conduct the funeral and burial services.

§ 56. Section 117-c of the highway law, as amended by section 63 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 117-c. Hawking, peddling, vending, sale of goods, wares or merchandise; Erie county; certain areas. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, except section thirty-five of the general business law, the county of Erie shall have the power to enact a local law prohibiting hawking, peddling, vending and sale of goods, wares or merchandise or solicitation of trade in the right-of-way of county roads adjacent to arenas, stadiums, auditoriums or like facilities, which contain fifty thousand or more seats, which are used for events likely to attract large numbers of spectators, including but not limited to home games of a National Football League franchise. Provided, however, that the power to enact such local law shall be subject to the requirement that provision be made, by lease agreement, regulation or otherwise, for the hawking, peddling, vending and sales of goods, wares or merchandise or solicitation of trade in designated vending areas on the ground of county-owned lands leased for use as an arena, stadium or auditorium or like facility which contain fifty thousand or more seats; and further provided that members of the armed forces of the United States who (a) were honorably discharged from such service, or (b) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) are discharged LGBT veterans, as

defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who are entitled to hawk, vend, sell or peddle merchandise in the public right-of-way pursuant to sections thirty-two and thirty-five of the general business law, shall be given first preference in any assignment or vending locations or in the allocation of such locations.

§ 57. Paragraph 11 of subsection (j) of section 2103 of the insurance law, as amended by section 64 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(11) No license fee shall be required of any person who served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time and who (A) shall have been discharged therefrom, under conditions other than dishonorable, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, in a current licensing period, for the duration of such period.

§ 58. Subparagraph (F) of paragraph 3 of subsection (e) and paragraph 2 of subsection (f) of section 2104 of the insurance law, as amended by section 65 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(F) served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time, and shall (i) have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who within three years prior to [~~his or her~~] their entry into the armed forces held a license as insurance broker for similar lines, provided [~~his or her~~] their application for such license is filed before one year from the date of final discharge; or

(2) No license fee shall be required of any person who served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time, and who (A) shall have been discharged, under conditions other than dishonorable, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, in a current licensing period, for the duration of such period.

§ 59. Paragraph 2 of subsection (i) of section 2108 of the insurance law, as amended by section 66 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(2) No license fee shall be required of any person who served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time and who (A) shall have been discharged, under conditions other than dishonorable, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or

(C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, in a current licensing period, for the duration of such period.

§ 60. Paragraph 10 of subsection (h) of section 2137 of the insurance law, as amended by section 67 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(10) No license fee shall be required of any person who served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time and who (A) shall have been discharged therefrom, under conditions other than dishonorable, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, in a current licensing period, for the duration of such period.

§ 61. Paragraph 11 of subsection (i) of section 2139 of the insurance law, as amended by section 68 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(11) No license fee shall be required of any person who served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time, and who (A) shall have been discharged therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, in a current licensing period for the duration of such period.

§ 62. Subdivision 2 of section 466 of the judiciary law, as amended by section 69 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. Any person now in actual service in the armed forces of the United States or whose induction or enlistment therein is imminent, or within sixty days after such person (1) has been honorably discharged, or (2) has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, if such person has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, or (3) has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, if such person is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, if the appellate division of the supreme court in the department in which such person resides is not in session, may subscribe and take the oath before a justice of that court, with the same force and effect as if it were taken in open court, except that in the first department the oath must be taken before the presiding justice or, in [~~his or her~~] their absence, before the senior justice.

§ 63. Subdivision 1 of section 168 of the labor law, as amended by section 13 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. This section shall apply to all persons employed by the state in the ward, cottage, colony, kitchen and dining room, and guard service personnel in any hospital, school, prison, reformatory or other institu-

tion within or subject to the jurisdiction, supervision, control or visitation of the department of corrections and community supervision, the department of health, the department of mental hygiene, the department of social welfare or the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, and engaged in the performance of such duties as nursing, guarding or attending the incarcerated individuals, patients, wards or other persons kept or housed in such institutions, or in protecting and guarding the buildings and/or grounds thereof, or in preparing or serving food therein.

§ 64. Subdivision 6 of section 224-d of the labor law, as amended by section 30 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

6. Each owner and developer subject to the requirements of this section shall comply with the objectives and goals of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises pursuant to article fifteen-A of the executive law and certified service-disabled veteran-owned businesses pursuant to article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law. The department in consultation with the commissioner of the division of minority and women's business development and the director of the division of service-disabled veterans' business development shall make training and resources available to assist minority and women-owned business enterprises and service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises on covered renewable energy systems to achieve and maintain compliance with prevailing wage requirements. The department shall make such training and resources available online and shall afford minority and women-owned business enterprises and service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises an opportunity to submit comments on such training.

§ 65. Paragraph 5 of subdivision (b) of section 5.06 of the mental hygiene law, as separately amended by sections 14 and 14-a of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(5) one member appointed on the recommendation of the state commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families and one member appointed on the recommendation of the adjutant general of the division of military and naval affairs, at least one of whom shall be a current or former consumer of mental health services or substance use disorder services who is a veteran who has served in a combat theater or combat zone of operations and is a member of a veterans organization;

§ 66. Subdivision (l) of section 7.09 of the mental hygiene law, as separately amended by section 15 of part PP of chapter 56 and chapter 363 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(l) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the commissioner, in conjunction with the commissioner of the office of addiction services and supports and the director of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall develop a public education initiative designed to eliminate stigma and misinformation about mental illness and substance use among service members, veterans, and their families, improve their understanding of mental and substance use disorders and the existence of effective treatment, and provide information regarding available resources and how to access them. These public education initiatives may include the use of the internet, including the use of social networking sites.

§ 67. Subdivision 3 of section 20 of the military law, as amended by section 70 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. Any person who has served as a commissioned or warrant officer in the organized militia or in the armed forces of the United States and (a) has been honorably discharged therefrom, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, may be commissioned and placed on the state reserve list in the highest grade previously held by [~~him or her~~] them after complying with such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations issued pursuant to this chapter.

§ 68. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subdivision 1 and subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 4-b of section 243 of the military law, as amended by section 71 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The term "military duty" shall mean military service in the military, naval, aviation or marine service of the United States subsequent to July first, nineteen hundred forty, or service under the selective training and service act of nineteen hundred forty, or the national guard and reserve officers mobilization act of nineteen hundred forty, or any other act of congress supplementary or amendatory thereto, or any similar act of congress hereafter enacted and irrespective of the fact that such service was entered upon following a voluntary enlistment therefor or was required under one of the foregoing acts of congress, or service with the United States public health service as a commissioned officer, or service with the American Red Cross while with the armed forces of the United States on foreign service, or service with the special services section of the armed forces of the United States on foreign service, or service in the merchant marine which shall consist of service as an officer or member of the crew on or in connection with a vessel documented under the laws of the United States or a vessel owned by, chartered to, or operated by or for the account or use of the government of the United States, or service by one who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense, or 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the

[~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or 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 (iv) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; or service in police duty on behalf of the United States government in a foreign country, if such person is a police officer, as defined by section 1.20 of the criminal procedure law, and if such police officer obtained the prior consent of [~~his or her~~] their public employer to absent [~~himself or herself~~] themself from [~~his or her~~] their position to engage in the performance of such service; or as an enrollee in the United States maritime service on active duty and, to such extent as may be prescribed by or under the laws of the United States, any period awaiting assignment to such service and any period of education or training for such service in any school or institution under the jurisdiction of the United States government, but shall not include temporary and intermittent gratuitous service in any reserve or auxiliary force. It shall include time spent in reporting for and returning from military duty and shall be deemed to commence when the public employee leaves [~~his or her~~] their position and to end when [~~he or she is~~] they are reinstated to [~~his or her~~] their position, provided such reinstatement is within ninety days after the termination of military duty, as hereinafter defined. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the term "military duty" shall not include any of the foregoing services entered upon voluntarily on or after January first, nineteen hundred forty-seven and before June twenty-fifth, nineteen hundred fifty; and, on or after July first, nineteen hundred seventy, the term "military duty" shall not include any voluntary service in excess of four years performed after that date, or the total of any voluntary services, additional or otherwise, in excess of four years performed after that date, shall not exceed five years, if the service in excess of four years is at the request and for the convenience of the federal government, except if such voluntary service is performed during a period of war, or national emergency declared by the president.

(c) The term "termination of military duty" shall mean the date of a certificate of honorable discharge or a certificate of completion of training and service as set forth in the selective training and service act of nineteen hundred forty, and the national guard and reserve officers mobilization act of nineteen hundred forty [~~or~~], or a certificate of release or discharge from active duty where an employee (i) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a

discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (ii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or in the event of the incurrence of a temporary disability arising out of and in the course of such military duty, the date of termination of such disability. The existence and termination of such temporary disability, in the case of a public employee occupying a position in the classified civil service or of a person on an eligible list for a position in such service, shall be determined by the civil service commission having jurisdiction over such position and, in the case of a public employee occupying a position not in the classified civil service, shall be determined by the officer or body having the power of appointment.

(1) "New York city veteran of world war II". Any member of the New York city employees' retirement system in city-service who, after [~~his or her~~] their last membership in such system began, served as a member of the armed forces of the United States during the period beginning on December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one and ending on December thirty-first, nineteen hundred forty-six, and (i) was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

(2) "New York city veteran of the Korean conflict." Any member of the New York city employees' retirement system in city-service who, after [~~his or her~~] their last membership in such system began, served as a member of the armed forces of the United States during the period beginning on the twenty-seventh of June, nineteen hundred fifty and ending on the thirty-first day of January, nineteen hundred fifty-five, and (i) was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 69. Section 245 of the military law, as amended by section 72 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 245. Retirement allowances of certain war veterans. 1. Any member of a teachers' retirement system to which the city of New York is required by law to make contributions on account of such member who (i) is an honorably discharged member of any branch of the armed forces of the United States, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, having served as such during the time of war and who has attained the age of

fifty years, may retire upon [~~his or her~~] their own request upon written application to the board setting forth at what time not less than thirty days subsequent to the execution and filing thereof [~~he or she desires~~] they desire to be retired, provided that such member at the time so specified for [~~his or her~~] their retirement shall have completed at least twenty-five years of allowable service. Upon retirement such member shall receive an annuity of equivalent actuarial value to [~~his or her~~] their accumulated deductions, and, in addition, a pension beginning immediately, having a value equal to the present value of the pension that would have become payable had [~~he or she~~] they continued at [~~his or her~~] their current salary to the age at which [~~he or she~~] they would have first become eligible for service retirement, provided, however, that the said member on making application for retirement shall pay into the retirement fund a sum of money which calculated on an actuarial basis, together with [~~his or her~~] their prior contributions and other accumulations in said fund then to [~~his or her~~] their credit, shall be sufficient to entitle the said member to the same annuity and pension that [~~he or she~~] they would have received had [~~he or she~~] they remained in the service of the city until [~~he or she~~] they had attained the age at which [~~he or she~~] they otherwise would have first become eligible for service retirement.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or of any general, special or local law or code to the contrary, a member of any such teachers' retirement system who (i) is separated or discharged under honorable conditions from any branch of the armed forces of the United States, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, having served as such during the time of war and who has attained the age of fifty years, may retire upon [~~his or her~~] their own request upon written application to the board setting forth at what time, not less than thirty days subsequent to the execution and filing thereof, [~~he or she desires~~] they desire to be retired, provided that such member at that time so specified for [~~his or her~~] their retirement shall have completed at least twenty-five years of allowable service. Upon reaching [~~his or her~~] their previously selected minimum retirement age, such member shall receive an annuity of equivalent actuarial value, at that time, to [~~his or her~~] their accumulated deductions, and, in addition, a pension based upon [~~his or her~~] their credited years of allowable service, plus the pension-for-increased-take-home-pay, if any. Should such member die before reaching [~~his or her~~] their retirement age, then any beneficiary under a selected option shall be eligible for benefits under such option at the date upon which the member would have reached [~~his or her~~] their selected retirement age.

§ 70. Subdivisions 1-b, 1-f, and 1-f of section 247 of the military law, subdivision 1-b as amended by section 73 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, subdivision 1-f as added by chapter 609 of the laws of 2023, and subdivision 1-f as amended by chapter 610 of the laws of 2023, are amended to read as follows:

1-b. The adjutant general is hereby authorized to present in the name of the legislature of the state of New York, a certificate, to be known as the "Cold War Certificate", bearing a suitable inscription, to any person: (i) who is a citizen of the state of New York or (ii) who was a

citizen of the state of New York while serving in the armed forces of the United States; (iii) who served in the United States Armed Forces during the period of time from September second, nineteen hundred forty-five through December twenty-sixth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, commonly known as the Cold War Era; and (iv) who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances during the Cold War Era, or has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable during the Cold War Era, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable during the Cold War Era. Not more than one Cold War Certificate shall be awarded or presented, under the provisions of this subdivision, to any person whose entire service subsequent to the time of the receipt of such medal shall not have been honorable. In the event of the death of any person during or subsequent to the receipt of such certificate it shall be presented to such representative of the deceased as may be designated. The adjutant general, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, shall make such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for the proper presentation and distribution of the certificate.

1-f. The governor is hereby authorized to present in the name of the legislature of the state of New York, a medal, to be known as the "New York State Iraq War Commemorative Medal", bearing a suitable inscription, to any person: (i) who is a resident of the state of New York or who was a resident of the state of New York while serving in the armed forces of the United States; (ii) who served in the United States Armed Forces, defined as army, air force, navy, marine corps or coast guard, on active duty in Iraq at any time during the period of March twentieth, two thousand three through December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-one; and (iii) who was discharged under honorable conditions or who has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable discharge. No person shall receive more than one New York State Iraq War Commemorative Medal. In the event of the death of any eligible person prior to the receipt of such commemorative medal, such commemorative medal shall be presented to the designated representative of the deceased. The adjutant general, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, shall make such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for the proper presentation and distribution of such medals.

1-f. The governor is hereby authorized to present in the name of the legislature of the state of New York, a medal, to be known as the "New York State Afghanistan War Commemorative Medal", bearing a suitable inscription, to any person: (i) who is a resident of the state of New York; or who was a resident of the state of New York while serving in the armed forces of the United States; (ii) who served in the United States Armed Forces, defined as army, air force, navy, marine corps, or coast guard, on active duty in Afghanistan at any time during the period from October seventh, two thousand one through August thirtieth, two thousand twenty-one; and (iii) who was discharged under honorable condi-

tions or who has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable discharge. No person shall receive more than one New York State Afghanistan War Commemorative Medal. In the event of the death of any eligible person prior to the receipt of such commemorative medal, such commemorative medal shall be presented to the designated representative of the deceased. The adjutant general, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, shall make such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for the proper presentation and distribution of such medals.

§ 71. Section 249 of the military law, as amended by section 74 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 249. State and municipal officers and employees granted leaves of absence on July fourth in certain cases. Each officer and employee of the state or of a municipal corporation or of any other political subdivision thereof who was a member of the national guard or naval militia or a member of the reserve corps at a time when the United States was not at war and who (i) has been honorably discharged therefrom, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, shall, in so far as practicable, be entitled to absent [~~himself or herself~~] themself from duties or service, with pay, on July fourth of each year. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special or local law or the provisions of any city charter, no such officer or employee shall be subjected by any person whatever directly or indirectly by reason of such absence to any loss or diminution of vacation or holiday privilege or be prejudiced by reason of such absence with reference to promotion or continuance in office or employment or to reappointment to office or to re-employment.

§ 72. Section 256 of the military law, as added by chapter 625 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

§ 256. State military immigrant family legacy program support. The adjutant general shall encourage the development of and provide for the establishment of a state military immigrant family legacy program liaison, as provided in section twenty-nine-b of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law.

§ 73. Subdivision (g) of section 202 of the not-for-profit corporation law, as amended by section 16 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(g) Every corporation receiving any kind of state funding shall ensure the provision on any form required to be completed at application or recertification for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance pursuant to this chapter, that the application form shall contain a check-off question asking whether the applicant or recipient or a member of [~~his or her~~] their family served in the United States military, and an option to answer in the affirmative. Where the applicant or recipient answers in the affirmative to such question, the not-for-profit corporation

shall ensure that contact information for the state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families is provided to such applicant or recipient in addition to any other materials provided.

§ 74. Subdivision (b) of section 1401 of the not-for-profit corporation law, as amended by section 17 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Removal of remains from private cemeteries to other cemeteries. The supervisor of any town containing a private cemetery may remove any body interred in such cemetery to any other cemetery within the town, if the owners of such cemeteries and the next of kin of the deceased consent to such removal. The owners of a private cemetery may remove the bodies interred therein to any other cemetery within such town, or to any cemetery designated by the next of kin of the deceased. Notice of such removal shall be given within twenty days before such removal personally or by certified mail to the next of kin of the deceased if known and to the clerk and historian of the county in which such real property is situated and notice shall be given to the New York state department of state, division of cemeteries. If any of the deceased are known to be veterans, the owners shall also notify the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families. In the absence of the next of kin, the county clerk, county historian or the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families may act as a guardian to ensure proper reburial.

§ 75. Subdivision 2 of section 13.19 of the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, as amended by chapter 103 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

2. For the purposes of this section (a) "veteran" shall mean a resident of this state who is: (i) a veteran as such term is defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law; or (ii) a person who has served on active duty for the state as a member of the state organized militia as defined in subdivision nine of section one of the military law and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable; or (iii) a person who has served on active duty in the uniformed services of the United States or on active duty for the state as a member of the organized militia and has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; and

(b) "member of a Gold Star family" shall mean a resident of this state who is a gold star parent as defined in section twenty-six of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, the spouse or domestic partner, or the biological, step, or legally adopted minor child of a veteran whose death qualified the parent for an annuity.

§ 76. Subparagraph 2 of paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 156 of the public housing law, as amended by section 75 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(2) (i) have been thereafter discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable, or (ii) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and have received a discharge other than bad

conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iv) died in such service, not more than five years prior to the time of application for admission to such project, and

§ 77. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subdivision 1 of section 2509-d of the public health law, as added by chapter 623 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

(b) "Women veterans coordinator" shall mean the women veterans coordinator appointed pursuant to section nineteen of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law.

(c) "Veteran" shall have the same meaning as such term is defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law and shall also include a veteran who has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 78. Subdivision (i) of section 2522 of the public health law, as added by chapter 623 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

(i) promotion of training and continuing medical education opportunities in military cultural competency for providers of prenatal care to veterans. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "veteran" shall have the same meaning as such term is defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law and shall also include a veteran who has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 79. The opening paragraph and paragraph (d) of subdivision 1 of section 2632 of the public health law, as amended by section 76 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

Every veteran of the armed forces of the United States, who (i) (A) was separated or discharged under honorable conditions after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, or (ii) (A) was separated or discharged under honorable conditions after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, and who was a

recipient of the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal or marine corps expeditionary medal for participation in operations in Lebanon from June first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to December first, nineteen hundred eighty-seven, in Grenada from October twenty-third, nineteen hundred eighty-three to November twenty-first, nineteen hundred eighty-three, or in Panama from December twentieth, nineteen hundred eighty-nine to January thirty-first, nineteen hundred ninety, or in Bosnia and Herzgegovina from November twenty-first, nineteen hundred ninety-five to November first, two thousand seven, or was a recipient of the Kosovo campaign medal or (iii) (A) was separated or discharged under honorable conditions after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days or (B) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, or (C) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable after serving on active duty therein for a period of not less than thirty days, and who served during the period of actual hostilities of either

(d) world war II between December seventh, nineteen hundred forty-one and December thirty-first, nineteen hundred forty-six, both inclusive, or who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 Defense, or 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or 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 (iv) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (v) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (vi) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; or

§ 80. Subdivision 5 of section 2805-b of the public health law, as amended by section 77 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

5. The staff of a general hospital shall: (a) inquire whether or not the person admitted has served in the United States armed forces. Such information shall be listed on the admissions form; (b) notify any admittee who is a veteran of the possible availability of services at a hospital operated by the United States veterans health administration, and, upon request by the admittee, such staff shall make arrangements for the individual's transfer to a United States veterans health administration hospital, provided, however, that transfers shall be authorized only after it has been determined, according to accepted clinical and medical standards, that the patient's condition has stabilized and transfer can be accomplished safely and without complication; and (c) provide any admittee who has served in the United States armed forces with a copy of the "Information for Veterans concerning Health Care Options" fact sheet, maintained by the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families pursuant to subdivision twenty-nine of section four of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law prior to discharging or transferring the patient. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations for notifying such admittees of possible available services and for arranging a requested transfer.

§ 81. Subdivision 2 of section 2805-o of the public health law, as amended by section 78 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. Every nursing home, residential health care facility and every adult care facility licensed and certified by the department pursuant to title two of article seven of the social services law or article forty-six-B of this chapter, including all adult homes, enriched housing programs, residences for adults, assisted living programs, and assisted living residences shall in writing advise all individuals identifying themselves as veterans or spouses of veterans that the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families and local veterans' service agencies established pursuant to section fourteen of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law to provide assistance to veterans and their spouses regarding benefits under federal and state law. Such written information shall include the name, address and telephone number of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, the nearest department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families office, the nearest county or city veterans' service agency and the nearest accredited veterans' service officer.

§ 82. Subdivision 3 of section 3422 of the public health law, as amended by section 79 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. A candidate who fails to attain a passing grade on [~~his or her~~] **their** licensing examination is entitled to a maximum of three re-examinations; provided, however, that if such candidate fails to attain a passing grade within three years after completion of [~~his or her~~] **their** training, [~~he or she~~] **they** must requalify in accordance with the provisions of the public health law and rules and regulations promulgated thereunder existing and in force as of the date of subsequent application for licensing examination, except that a satisfactorily completed required course of study need not be recompleted. A candidate inducted into the armed forces of the United States during or after completion of training may (a) after honorable discharge or (b) after a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable where the candidate (i) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, or (ii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and upon proper application as required by the department be eligible for an exemption with respect to time served in such service.

§ 83. Subdivision 2 of section 3802 of the public health law, as amended by section 18 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. In the exercise of the foregoing powers and duties the commissioner shall consult with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** and the heads of state agencies charged with responsibility for [~~manpower~~] **workforce** and health resources.

§ 84. Subdivision 3 of section 3803 of the public health law, as amended by section 19 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. In exercising any of [~~his or her~~] **their** powers under this section, the commissioner shall consult with appropriate health care professionals, providers, veterans or organizations representing them, the department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families**, the United States department of veterans affairs and the United States defense department.

§ 85. Section 63 of the public officers law, as amended by section 80 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 63. Leave of absence for veterans on Memorial day and Veterans' day. It shall be the duty of the head of every public department and of every court of the state of New York, of every superintendent or [~~foreman~~] **foreperson** on the public works of said state, of the county officers of the several counties of said state, of the town officers of the various towns in this state, of the fire district officers of the various fire districts in this state, and of the head of every department, bureau and office in the government of the various cities and villages in this state, and the officers of any public benefit corporation or any public authority of this state, or of any public benefit corporation or public authority of any county or subdivision of this state, to give leave of absence with pay for twenty-four hours on the day prescribed by law as a public holiday for the observance of Memorial day and on the eleventh day of November, known as Veterans' day, to every person in the service of the state, the county, the town, the fire district, the city or village, the public benefit corporation or public authority of this state, or any public benefit corporation or public authority of any county or subdivision of this state, as the case may be, (i) who served

on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during world war I or world war II, or who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] **mariner** 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 Defense, or 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 (a) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service or 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 (d) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (e) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (f) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service or during the period of the Korean conflict at any time between the dates of June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred fifty and January thirty-first, nineteen hundred fifty-five, or during the period of the Vietnam conflict from the first day of November, nineteen hundred fifty-five to the seventh day of May, nineteen hundred seventy-five, or (ii) who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States and who was a recipient of the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal or marine corps expeditionary medal for participation in operations in Lebanon from June first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to December first, nineteen hundred eighty-seven, in Grenada from October twenty-third, nineteen hundred eighty-three to November twenty-first, nineteen hundred eighty-three, or in Panama from December twentieth, nineteen hundred eighty-nine to January thirty-first, nineteen hundred ninety, or (iii) who served in the armed forces of a

foreign country allied with the United States during world war I or world war II, or during the period of the Korean conflict at any time between June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred fifty and January thirty-first, nineteen hundred fifty-five, or during the period of the Vietnam conflict from the first day of November, nineteen hundred fifty-five to the seventh day of May, nineteen hundred seventy-five, or during the period of the Persian Gulf conflict from the second day of August, nineteen hundred ninety to the end of such conflict, or who served on active duty in the army or navy or marine corps or air force or coast guard of the United States, and who (a) was honorably discharged or separated from such service under honorable conditions, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service except where such action would endanger the public safety or the safety or health of persons cared for by the state, in which event such persons shall be entitled to leave of absence with pay on another day in lieu thereof. All such persons who are compensated on a per diem, hourly, semi-monthly or monthly basis, with or without maintenance, shall also be entitled to leave of absence with pay under the provisions of this section and no deduction in vacation allowance or budgetary allowable number of working days shall be made in lieu thereof. A refusal to give such leave of absence to one entitled thereto shall be neglect of duty.

§ 86. Subdivision 3 of section 1271 of the private housing finance law, as amended by section 81 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. "Veteran" shall mean a veteran as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, or is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, who is a resident of the state and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 87. Subdivisions 2 and 4-a of section 458 of the real property tax law, as amended by section 82 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. Real property purchased with moneys collected by popular subscription in partial recognition of extraordinary services rendered by any veteran of world war one, world war two, or of the hostilities which commenced June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred fifty, who (a) was honorably discharged from such service, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and who sustained permanent disability while on military duty, either total or partial, and owned by the person who sustained such injuries, or by [~~his or her~~] their spouse or unremarried surviving spouse, or dependent [~~father or mother~~] parent, is subject to taxation as herein provided. Such property shall be assessed in the same manner as other real property in the tax district. At the meeting of the assessors to hear complaints concerning the assessments, a verified application for the exemption of such real prop-

erty from taxation may be presented to them by or on behalf of the owner thereof, which application must show the facts on which the exemption is claimed, including the amount of moneys so raised and used in or toward the purchase of such property. No exemption on account of any such gift shall be allowed in excess of five thousand dollars. The application for exemption shall be presented and action thereon taken in the manner provided by subdivision one of this section. If no application for exemption be granted, the property shall be subject to taxation for all purposes. The provisions herein, relating to the assessment and exemption of property purchased with moneys raised by popular subscription, apply and shall be enforced in each municipal corporation authorized to levy taxes.

4-a. For the purposes of this section, the term "military or naval services" shall be deemed to also include service: (a) by a person who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] **mariner** 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 defense; (b) service by a United States civilian employed by the American Field Service who 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; or (c) service by a United States civilian Flight Crew and Aviation Ground Support Employee of Pan American World Airways or one of its subsidiaries or its affiliates who 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 (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 88. Paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 and subdivisions 9 and 10 of section 458-a of the real property tax law, paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 611 of the laws of 2023 and subdivisions 9 and 10 as amended by section 83 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are 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 (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, (ii) who was employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant [~~seaman~~] mariner 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 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 (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, (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 (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has

received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, (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 (1) received an honorable discharge or release therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, 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 shall be considered to have been discharged or released from active military service of the United States under honorable conditions if: (1) the individual served in the active military service of the United States for the period of time such individual was obligated to serve at the time of entry into service; (2) the individual was not discharged or released from such service at the time of completing such period of obligation due to an intervening enlistment or reenlistment; (3) the individual would have been eligible for a discharge or release under conditions other than dishonorable at such time except for such intervening enlistment or reenlistment; and (4) the individual served in the active military service of the United States for a period of at least ten years, provided that such individual meets all other qualifications under the provisions of this section.

9. The commissioner shall develop in consultation with the commissioner of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families a listing of documents to be used to establish eligibility under this section, including but not limited to a certificate of release or discharge from active duty also known as a DD-214 form or an Honorable Service Certificate/Report of Casualty from the department of defense. Such information shall be made available to each county, city, town or village assessor's office, or congressional chartered veterans service officers who request such information. The listing of acceptable military records shall be made available on the internet websites of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families and the office of real property tax services.

10. A county, city, town, village or school district may adopt a local law or resolution to include those military personnel who served in the Reserve component of the United States Armed Forces that 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, if such member (1) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, provided that such veteran meets all other qualifications of this section.

§ 89. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 and subdivision 8 of section 458-b of the real property tax law, as amended by section 84 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

(a) "Cold War veteran" means a person[~~, male or female,~~] who served on active duty in the United States armed forces, during the time period from September second, nineteen hundred forty-five to December twenty-sixth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, and (i) was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

8. The commissioner shall develop in consultation with the commissioner of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** a listing of documents to be used to establish eligibility under this section, including but not limited to a certificate of release or discharge from active duty also known as a DD-214 form or an Honorable Service Certificate/Report of Casualty from the department of defense. Such information shall be made available to each county, city, town or village assessor's office, or congressional chartered veterans service officers who request such information. The listing of acceptable military records shall be made available on the internet websites of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** and the office of real property tax services.

§ 90. Paragraph (j) of subdivision 3 of section 20 of the social services law, as amended by section 20 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(j) to ensure the provision, on any form required to be completed at application or recertification for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance pursuant to this chapter, the form shall contain a check-off question asking whether the applicant or recipient or a member of [~~his or her~~] **their** family served in the United States military, and an option to answer in the affirmative. Where the applicant or recipient answers in the affirmative to such question, the office of temporary and disability assistance shall ensure that contact information for the state department of [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** is provided to such applicant or recipient **in** addition to any other materials provided.

§ 91. Subparagraph (v) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 122 of the social services law, as separately amended by section 85 of part PP of chapter 56 and chapter 669 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(v) any noncitizen lawfully residing in the state who is on active duty in the armed forces (other than active duty for training) or who (1) has received an honorable discharge (and not on account of noncitizen status) from the armed forces, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable (and not on account of noncitizen status) from the armed forces, or (3) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] **veterans and military families** law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable (and not on account of noncitizen status) from the armed forces, or the spouse, unremarried surviving spouse or unmarried dependent child of any such

noncitizen, if such noncitizen, spouse or dependent child is a qualified alien as defined in section 431 of the federal personal responsibility and work opportunity reconciliation act of 1996 (8 U.S. Code 1641), as amended;

§ 92. Subdivision 1 of section 168 of the social services law, as amended by chapter 445 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

1. Veteran means a person who has served in the armed forces of the United States or who was a recipient of the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal or marine corps expeditionary medal for participation in operations in Lebanon from June first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to December first, nineteen hundred eighty-seven, in Grenada from October twenty-third, nineteen hundred eighty-three to November twenty-first, nineteen hundred eighty-three, or in Panama from December twentieth, nineteen hundred eighty-nine to January thirty-first, nineteen hundred ninety, and who (a) has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from such service or furloughed to the reserve, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 93. Subdivisions 3 and 4 of section 95-f of the state finance law, as amended by section 21 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

3. Monies of the fund shall be expended for the provision of veterans' counseling services provided by local veterans' service agencies pursuant to section fourteen of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law under the direction of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families.

4. To the extent practicable, the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall ensure that all monies received during a fiscal year are expended prior to the end of that fiscal year.

§ 94. The opening paragraph of subdivision 2-a and subdivision 5 of section 97-mmmm of the state finance law, as amended by section 22 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

On or before the first day of February each year, the commissioner of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall provide a written report to the temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly, chair of the senate finance committee, chair of the assembly ways and means committee, chair of the senate committee on veterans, homeland security and military affairs, chair of the assembly veterans' affairs committee, the state comptroller and the public. Such report shall include how the monies of the fund were utilized during the preceding calendar year, and shall include:

5. Moneys shall be payable from the fund on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers approved and certified by the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families.

§ 95. The opening paragraph of subdivision 2-a and subdivision 4 of section 99-v of the state finance law, as amended by section 23 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

On or before the first day of February each year, the commissioner of the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall provide a written report to the temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly, chair of the senate finance committee, chair of the assembly ways and means committee, chair of the senate committee on veterans, homeland security and military affairs, chair of the assembly veterans' affairs committee, the state comptroller and the public. Such report shall include how the monies of the fund were utilized during the preceding calendar year, and shall include:

4. Moneys of the fund shall be expended only for the assistance and care of homeless veterans, for housing and housing-related expenses, as determined by the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families.

§ 96. Subdivision 1 of section 143 of the state finance law, as amended by section 27 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of any general or special law, the board, division, department, bureau, agency, officer or commission of the state charged with the duty of preparing plans and specifications for and awarding or entering into contracts for the performance of public work may require the payment of a fixed sum of money, not exceeding one hundred dollars, for each copy of such plans and specifications, by persons or corporations desiring a copy thereof. Any person or corporation desiring a copy of such plans and specifications and making the deposit required by this section shall be furnished with one copy of the plans and specifications. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where payment is required it shall be waived upon request by minority- and women-owned business enterprises certified pursuant to article fifteen-A of the executive law or by service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises certified pursuant to article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law. Such payment may also be waived when such plans and specifications are made available and obtained electronically or in any non-paper form from the board, division, department, bureau, agency, officer or commission of the state.

§ 97. Paragraph j of subdivision 1, paragraph (d) of subdivision 6, and subdivision 6-d of section 163 of the state finance law, paragraph j of subdivision 1 and subdivision 6-d as amended by section 28 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 and paragraph (d) of subdivision 6 as amended by chapter 110 of the laws of 2024, are amended to read as follows:

j. "Best value" means the basis for awarding contracts for services to the offerer which optimizes quality, cost and efficiency, among responsive and responsible offerers. Such basis shall reflect, wherever possible, objective and quantifiable analysis. Such basis may also identify a quantitative factor for offerers that are small businesses, certified minority- or women-owned business enterprises as defined in subdivisions one, seven, fifteen and twenty of section three hundred ten of the executive law or service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises as defined in subdivision one of section forty of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law to be used in evaluation of offers for awarding of contracts for services.

(d) state agencies may purchase commodities or services from those certified pursuant to article fifteen-A of the executive law and article three of the [~~veterans' service~~] veterans and military families law in

an amount not exceeding seven hundred fifty thousand dollars without a formal competitive process; and

6-d. Pursuant to the authority provided in subdivision six of this section, state agencies shall report annually on a fiscal year basis by July first of the ensuing year to the director of the division of minority and women-owned business development the total number and total value of contracts awarded to businesses certified pursuant to article fifteen-A of the executive law, and with respect to contracts awarded to businesses certified pursuant to article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law such information shall be reported to the division of service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises for inclusion in their respective annual reports.

§ 98. Subdivision 26 of section 213 of the state finance law, as amended by chapter 409 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

26. "Certified service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprise" means any service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprise as provided for in article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law.

§ 99. Subdivision 3 of section 103-a of the state technology law, as amended by section 31 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. The director shall conduct an outreach campaign informing the public of the iCenter and shall conduct specific outreach to minority and women-owned business enterprises certified pursuant to article fifteen-A of the executive law, small businesses as such term is defined in section one hundred thirty-one of the economic development law, and service disabled veteran owned business enterprises certified pursuant to article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law to inform such businesses of iCenter initiatives.

§ 100. Subparagraph 1 of paragraph (b) of subdivision 29 of section 210-B of the tax law, as separately amended by section 87 of part PP of chapter 56 and section 1 of part H of chapter 59 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(1) who served on active duty in the United States army, navy, air force, space force, marine corps, coast guard or the reserves thereof, or who served in active military service of the United States as a member of the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard or New York naval militia, or who served in the active uniformed services of the United States as a member of the commissioned corps of the national oceanic and atmospheric administration or the commissioned corps of the United States public health service; who (i) was released from such service, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service;

§ 101. Subparagraph (A) of paragraph 2 of subsection (a-2) of section 606 of the tax law, as separately amended by section 88 of part PP of chapter 56 and section 2 of part H of chapter 59 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(A) who served on active duty in the United States army, navy, air force, space force, marine corps, coast guard or the reserves thereof, or who served in active military service of the United States as a

member of the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard or New York naval militia, or who served in the active uniformed services of the United States as a member of the commissioned corps of the national oceanic and atmospheric administration or the commissioned corps of the United States public health service; who (i) was released from active duty by general or honorable discharge, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service;

§ 102. Paragraph 18-a of subdivision (a) of section 1115 of the tax law, as amended by section 89 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(18-a) Tangible personal property manufactured and sold by a veteran, as defined in section twenty-two of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, for the benefit of a veteran's service organization, provided that such person or any member of [~~his or her~~] their household does not conduct a trade or business in which similar items are sold, the first two thousand five hundred dollars of receipts from such sales in a calendar year.

§ 103. Subparagraph (A) of paragraph 2 of subdivision (g-1) of section 1511 of the tax law, as separately amended by section 90 of part PP of chapter 56 and section 3 of part H of chapter 59 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(A) who served on active duty in the United States army, navy, air force, space force, marine corps, coast guard or the reserves thereof, or who served in active military service of the United States as a member of the army national guard, air national guard, New York guard or New York naval militia, or who served in the active uniformed services of the United States as a member of the commissioned corps of the national oceanic and atmospheric administration or the commissioned corps of the United States public health service; who (i) was released from active duty by general or honorable discharge, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service;

§ 104. Section 295 of the town law, as amended by section 91 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 295. Removal of remains of deceased members of armed forces. Upon a verified petition presented to a judge of a court of record by any armed forces' organization in any town or city in this state by a majority of its officers, or a majority of any memorial committee in any town or city where there are two or more veteran armed forces' organizations, or in towns or cities where there are no veteran armed forces' organizations, upon the petition of five or more veterans of the armed forces, the judge to whom said verified petition is presented shall make an order to show cause, returnable before [~~him or her~~] them at a time and place within the county in not less than fourteen or more than twenty days from the date of presentation of said petition, why the remains of any deceased members of the armed forces buried in potter's field, or in any neglected or abandoned cemeteries, should not be removed to and

reinterred in a properly kept incorporated cemetery in the same town or city or in a town adjoining the town or city in which the remains of a deceased member of the armed forces are buried, and to fix the amount of the expenses for such removal and reinterment, and the order to show cause shall provide for its publication in a newspaper, to be designated in the order, which is published nearest to the cemetery from which the removal is sought to be made, once in each week for two successive weeks. The verified petition presented to the judge shall show that the petitioners are a majority of the officers of a veteran armed forces organization, or a majority of a memorial committee in towns or cities where two or more veteran armed forces organizations exist, or that the petitioners are honorably discharged veterans of the armed forces in towns or cities where no veteran armed forces organization exists, or that the petitioners have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service and are in towns or cities where no veteran armed forces organizations exist, or that the petitioners are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service and are in towns and cities where no veteran armed forces organizations exist, and (1) the name of the deceased member or members of the armed forces, whose remains are sought to be removed, and if known the unit in which [~~he, she or~~] they served; (2) the name and location of the cemetery in which [~~he or she is~~] they are interred and from which removal is asked to be made; (3) the name and location of the incorporated cemetery to which the remains are desired to be removed and reinterred; (4) the facts showing the reasons for such removal. Upon the return day of the order to show cause and at the time and place fixed in said order, upon filing proof of publication of the order to show cause with the judge, if no objection is made thereto, [~~he or she~~] they shall make an order directing the removal of the remains of said deceased member or members of the armed forces to the cemetery designated in the petition within the town or city or within a town adjoining the town or city in which the remains are then buried and shall specify in the order the amount of the expenses of such removal, which expenses of removal and reinterment, including the expense of the proceeding under this section, shall be a charge upon the county in which the town or city is situated from which the removal is made and such expenses shall be a county charge and audited by the board of supervisors of the county and paid in the same manner as other county charges. On and after the removal and reinterment of the remains of the deceased member or members of the armed forces in the armed forces' plot, the expenses for annual care of the grave in the armed forces' burial plot to which the removal is made shall be annually provided by the town or city in which the remains were originally buried, at the rate of not to exceed twenty dollars per grave, and shall be paid annually to the incorporated cemetery association to which the remains of each deceased member of the armed forces may be removed and reinterred. The petition and order shall be filed in the county clerk's office of the county in which the remains of the deceased member of the armed forces were originally interred, and the service of a certified copy of the final order upon the cemetery association shall be made prior to any removal. Any relative of the deceased member or members of the armed forces, or the officer of any cemetery association in which the remains of the deceased member or members of the armed forces were originally

interred, or the authorities of the county in which the member or members of the armed forces were originally buried, may oppose the granting of said order and the judge shall summarily hear the statement of the parties and make such order as the justice and equity of the application shall require. Any headstone or monument which marks the grave of the deceased member of the armed forces shall be removed and reset at the grave in the cemetery in which the removal is permitted to be made and in each case the final order shall provide the amount of the expenses of such removals and reinterment and resetting of the headstone or monument, including the expenses of the proceedings under this section; except that where provision is otherwise made for the purchase or erection of a new headstone, monument or marker at the grave in the cemetery to which such removal is permitted, such old headstone or monument need not be so removed and reset, in which case such final order shall not provide for the expense of resetting. The order shall designate the person or persons having charge of the removals and reinterments. Upon completion of the removal, reinterment and resetting of the headstones or monuments, the person or persons having charge of the same shall make a verified report of the removal, reinterment and resetting of the headstone or monument and file the report in the clerk's office of the proper county. The words "member of the armed forces" shall be construed to mean a member of the armed forces who served in the armed forces of the United States and who (5) was honorably discharged from such service, or (6) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (7) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, and the words "armed forces plot" shall be construed to mean a plot of land in any incorporated cemetery set apart to be exclusively used as a place for interring the remains of deceased veterans of the armed forces of the United States.

§ 105. Subdivision 2 of section 404-v of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 92 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. The distinctive plate authorized pursuant to this section shall be issued upon proof, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the applicant is a veteran who served in the United States Naval Armed Guard and who (1) was honorably discharged from such service, or (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families 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~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 106. Subdivision 3 of section 404-v of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 93 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. A distinctive plate issued pursuant to this section shall be issued in the same manner as other number plates upon the payment of the regular registration fee prescribed by section four hundred one of this article, provided, however, that an additional annual service charge of fifteen dollars shall be charged for such plate. Such annual service charge shall be deposited to the credit of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society fund established pursuant to section ninety-five-f of the

state finance law and shall be used for veterans' counseling services provided by local veterans' service agencies pursuant to section fourteen of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law under the direction of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families. Provided, however, that one year after the effective date of this section funds in the amount of five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be available, shall be allocated to the department to offset costs associated with the production of such license plates.

§ 107. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision 1 of section 404-w of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 94 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

(a) a person who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in the Persian Gulf from the eleventh day of September, two thousand one, to the end of such hostilities, who (i) was discharged therefrom under other than dishonorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; or

(b) a person who served in the armed forces of the United States, in the hostilities that occurred in Afghanistan from the eleventh day of September, two thousand one, to the end of such hostilities, who (i) was discharged therefrom under other than dishonorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 108. Subdivision 3 of section 404-w of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 95 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3. For the purposes of this section, "Persian Gulf veteran" shall mean a person who is a resident of this state, who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in the Persian Gulf from the second day of August, nineteen hundred ninety to the end of such hostilities, and was (a) honorably discharged from the military, or (b) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (c) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 109. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision 3 of section 404-y of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 96 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, are amended to read as follows:

(a) "Veteran of the Iraq War" shall mean a person who is a resident of this state, who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in Iraq from the sixteenth day of October, two thousand two to the end of such hostilities who (i) was discharged ther-

efrom under other than dishonorable conditions or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; and

(b) "Veteran of the Afghanistan War" shall mean a person who is a resident of this state, who served in the armed forces of the United States in the hostilities that occurred in Afghanistan from the seventh day of October, two thousand one to the end of such hostilities who (i) was discharged therefrom under other than dishonorable conditions or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service.

§ 110. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of section 490 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 97 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The identification card shall contain a distinguishing number or mark and adequate space upon which an anatomical gift, pursuant to article forty-three of the public health law, by the holder may be recorded and shall contain such other information and shall be issued in such form as the commissioner shall determine; provided, however, every identification card or renewal thereof issued to a person under the age of twenty-one years shall have prominently imprinted thereon the statement "UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE" in notably distinctive print or format. Provided, further, however, that every identification card issued to an applicant who was a member of the armed forces of the United States and (i) received an honorable discharge or was released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, shall, upon [~~his or her~~] their request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine, indicating that [~~he or she is~~] they are a veteran. Such proof shall consist of a certificate of release or discharge from active duty including but not limited to a DD Form 214 or other proof satisfactory to the commissioner. The commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such identification cards or renewals thereof to persons under twenty-one years of age which are different from the fees required for the issuance of identification cards or renewals thereof to persons twenty-one years of age or over, nor fees to persons requesting a veteran distinguishing mark which are different from fees that would otherwise be required. Provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of section four hundred ninety-one of this article, the commissioner shall not require any fees for the duplication or amendment of an identification card prior to its renewal if such duplication or amendment was solely for the purpose of adding a veteran distinguishing mark to such identification card.

§ 111. Paragraph (a-1) of subdivision 1 of section 504 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 98 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) Every license or renewal thereof issued to an applicant who was a member of the armed forces of the United States and who (i) received an honorable discharge or was released therefrom under honorable conditions, or (ii) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) is a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, shall, upon [~~his or her~~] their request and submission of proof as set forth herein, contain a distinguishing mark, in such form as the commissioner shall determine, indicating that [~~he or she is~~] they are a veteran. Such proof shall consist of a certificate of release or discharge from active duty including but not limited to a DD Form 214 or other proof satisfactory to the commissioner. The commissioner shall not require fees for the issuance of such licenses or renewals thereof to persons requesting a veteran distinguishing mark which are different from fees otherwise required; provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall not require fees for a duplication or amendment of a license prior to its renewal if such duplication or amendment was solely for the purpose of adding a veteran distinguishing mark to such license.

§ 112. Subdivision 6 of section 508 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 449 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

6. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, is directed to establish a process by which the department shall refer driver's license and non-driver identification card applicants requesting and obtaining a notation upon such license or non-driver identification card that such applicant is a veteran of the United States armed forces pursuant to subdivision three of section four hundred ninety of this chapter or subdivision one of section five hundred two of this article, upon such applicant's request, to the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families, consistent with the provisions of section seven of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law.

§ 113. The second undesignated subparagraph of paragraph (a) of subdivision 8 of section 15 of the workers' compensation law, as amended by section 99 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

Second: That any plan which will reasonably, equitably and practically operate to break down hindrances and remove obstacles to the employment of partially disabled persons who (i) are honorably discharged from our armed forces, or (ii) have a qualifying condition, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (iii) are discharged LGBT veterans, as defined in section one of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service, or any other physically handicapped persons, is of vital importance to the state and its people and is of concern to this legislature;

§ 114. Subdivision 1 of section 20 of chapter 784 of the laws of 1951, constituting the New York state defense emergency act, as amended by section 24 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby continued in the division of military and naval affairs in the executive department a state civil defense commission to consist of the same members as the members of the disaster preparedness commission as established in article two-B of the executive law. In addition, the superintendent of financial services, the chairperson of the workers' compensation board and the commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families shall be members. The governor shall designate one of the members of the commission to be the chairperson thereof. The commission may provide for its division into subcommittees and for action by such subcommittees with the same force and effect as action by the full commission. The members of the commission, except for those who serve ex officio, shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties under this article but shall receive no additional compensation for services rendered pursuant to this article.

§ 115. Subdivision 3 of section 16-t of section 1 of chapter 174 of the laws of 1968, constituting the New York state urban development corporation act, as amended by chapter 617 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

3. Program loans to small businesses and micro-businesses shall be targeted and marketed to minority and women-owned enterprises, veteran-owned enterprises as set forth in 15 U.S.C. section 632(Q)(3), as amended from time to time, and service-disabled veteran-owned enterprises as set forth in article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and other small businesses and micro-businesses that are having difficulty accessing traditional credit markets. Program loans to small businesses and micro-businesses shall be used for the creation and retention of jobs, as defined by the corporation, including: (a) working capital; (b) the acquisition and/or improvement of real property; (c) the acquisition of machinery and equipment, property or improvement; or (d) the refinancing of debt obligations. There shall be two categories of loans to small businesses and micro-businesses: a micro loan that shall have a principal amount that is less than twenty-five thousand dollars and a regular loan that shall have a principal amount not less than twenty-five thousand dollars. Prior to receiving program funds, the lending organization must certify to the corporation that such loan complies with this section and rules and regulations promulgated for the program and that the lending organization has performed its obligations pursuant to and is in compliance with this section, the program rules and regulations and all agreements entered into between the corporation and the lending organization. The program funds amount used by the lending organization to fund a program applicant loan shall not be more than fifty percent of the principal amount of such loan. The program funds amount used by the lending organization to fund a program applicant loan shall not be greater than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. Minority- and women-owned business enterprises, veteran-owned enterprises as set forth in 15 U.S.C. section 632(Q)(3), as amended from time to time, and service-disabled veteran-owned enterprises as set forth in article three of the [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families law, and other small businesses or micro-businesses who access such program loans under this

subdivision shall not be precluded from accessing such short-term financing loans provided under subdivision eleven of this section.

§ 116. Paragraph 2 of subdivision b of section 31-102 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by section 25 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. links to websites describing veteran employment services provided by the federal government and New York state government, including, but not limited to, the websites of the United States department of labor, the New York state department of labor, the United States department of veterans affairs, and the New York state department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families; and

§ 117. Subdivision a of section 3102 of the New York city charter, as amended by section 26 of part PP of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

a. Except as otherwise provided by law, the commissioner shall have such powers as provided by the commissioner of the state department [~~veterans' services'~~] of veterans and military families and shall have the duty to inform military and naval authorities of the United States and assist members of the armed forces and veterans, who are residents of the city, and their families, in relation to: (1) matters pertaining to educational training and retraining services and facilities, (2) health, medical and rehabilitation service and facilities, (3) provisions of federal, state and local laws and regulations affording special rights and privileges to members of the armed forces and veterans and their families, (4) employment and re-employment services, and (5) other matters of similar, related or appropriate nature. The commissioner shall also assist families of members of the reserve components of the armed forces and the organized militia ordered into active duty to ensure that they are made aware of and are receiving all appropriate support available to them. The department also shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the state commissioner of the department of [~~veterans' services~~] veterans and military families.

§ 118. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, the amendments made to paragraph (b) of subdivision 5 of section 50 of the civil service law made by section twenty of this act shall be subject to the expiration and reversion of such paragraph when upon such date the provisions of section twenty-a of this act shall take effect; provided further, however, the amendments made to section thirty-three-a of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 453 of the laws of 2024 takes effect; provided further, however, the amendments made to sections forty-three and seventy-two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 625 of the laws of 2024 takes effect; provided further, however, the amendments made to sections seventy-seven and seventy-eight of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 623 of the laws of 2024 takes effect; provided further, however, that the amendments to section 163 of the state finance law made by section ninety-seven of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith; provided further, however, that the amendments to section 103-a of the state technology law made by section ninety-nine of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.