

Senate Bill 614

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Chapter 648

AN ACT to amend 45.16, 45.35 (5a) (intro. par.), as amended by chapter 295, laws of 1965, 45.37 (1a), 45.396, as amended by chapters 293 and 433, laws of 1965, and 45.42 (1) and (2) of the statutes, relating to eligibility of certain veterans for state veterans benefits.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 45.16 of the statutes is amended to read:

45.16 Each county veterans service officer shall cause to be interred in a decent and respectable manner in any cemetery in this state, other than those used exclusively for the burial of paupers, the body of any person who served in any war of the United States ~~or~~, in the Korean conflict, *under section 1 of executive order 10957, dated August 10, 1961, or had service which entitled him to receive either the armed forces expeditionary medal, established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, or the Viet Nam service medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965,* and who was discharged under honorable conditions therefrom after 90 days or more of active service, *in the U.S. armed forces,* or if having served less than 90 days was honorably discharged for disability incurred in line of duty and who was living in such county at the time of his death, and who dies not leaving sufficient means to defray the necessary expenses of a decent burial, or under financial circumstances which would distress his family to pay the expenses of such burial, and the body of a wife or widow of any such person who dies not leaving such means or under the same financial circumstances and who was living in such county at the time of her death, at an expense to the county of not more than \$150 in addition to the burial allowance payable under laws administered by the veterans administration.

SECTION 2. 45.35 (5a) (intro. par.) of the statutes, as amended by chapter 295, laws of 1965, is amended to read:

45.35 (5a) (intro. par.) "Veteran" as used in this chapter, except in s. 45.37 and unless otherwise modified, means any person who served *on active duty* under honorable conditions in the ~~active military or naval service of the United States~~ *U.S. armed forces which service entitled him to receive either the armed forces expeditionary medal, established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, or the Viet Nam service medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965, or for 90 days or more during a war period, as enumerated below, or under section 1 of executive order 10957, dated August 10, 1961, or if having served less than 90 days was honorably discharged for a service-connected disability or for a disability subsequently adjudicated to have been service-connected, who has been a resident of this state for at least 10 years next preceding his application or was a resident of this state at the time of his enlistment or induction into service and is a resident of and living in this state at the time of making application. If the service was in more than one wartime period, service in one entire period must have been under honorable conditions or have been terminated by an honorable discharge. The benefits available to veterans shall also be made available to the unremarried widows, widowers and children of persons who were residents of the state at the time of their enlistment or induction into service, who served *on active duty* under honorable conditions in the ~~active military or naval service of the United States~~ *U.S. armed forces* and who were officially reported missing in action, killed in action or who died in service during a wartime period.*

SECTION 3. 45.37 (1a) of the statutes is amended to read:

45.37 (1a) "Veteran" as used in this section means any person who served *on active duty* under honorable conditions in the ~~active military or naval service of the United States~~ *U.S. armed forces who was entitled to receive either the armed forces expeditionary medal, established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, or the Viet Nam service medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965, or for at least one day during a war period, as defined in s. 45.35 (5a) (a) to (g) or under section 1 of executive order 10957, dated August 10, 1961, and who was officially reported missing in action, killed in action or who died in service, or who was discharged under honorable conditions therefrom after 90 days or more of active service, or if having served less than 90 days was honorably discharged for a service-connected disability or for a disability subsequently adjudicated to have been service connected, or who died as a result of service-connected disability.*

SECTION 4. 45.396 of the statutes, as amended by chapters 293 and 433, laws of 1965, is amended to read:

45.396 Any ~~honorably discharged~~ ~~veteran as defined in s. 45.35 (5a) (a) to (g)~~, upon the completion of any correspondence courses or part-time classroom study from the university of Wisconsin, the university of Wisconsin extension division, or any state college or its extension division or ~~any post high school courses~~ from any school of vocational, *technical* and adult education as established under s. 41.15 receiving aids from the state board of vocational, *technical* and adult education, taken upon authorization of the Wisconsin department of veterans affairs, may be reimbursed for the cost of such courses, including necessary textbooks, by the department upon presentation to the department of a certificate from the school indicating that he has completed the courses and stating the cost of such courses and necessary textbooks. Benefits granted under this section shall be paid out of the appropriation ~~in~~ *under* s. 20.840 (2) (um).

SECTION 5. 45.42 (1) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:

45.42 (1) The Wisconsin department of veterans affairs shall compile a record of the burial places within the state of persons who served in the U.S. armed forces of the United States under honorable conditions in time of war as defined in s. 45.35 (5a) (a) to (g), or under section 1 of executive order 10957, dated August 10, 1961, or whose service entitled them to receive either the armed forces expeditionary medal, established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, or the Viet Nam service medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965. Such record, so far as practicable, shall indicate the name of each such person; the service in which he was engaged; the appropriate designation of his armed forces unit; the rank and period of service; the name and location of the cemetery or other place in which his body is interred; the location of the grave in such cemetery or other place; and the character of headstone or other marker, if any, at such grave.

(2) The department shall ~~cause~~ have blank forms ~~to be prepared~~ whereby the information required for such record may be transmitted to it. The county veterans service officer within whose county ~~are located~~ any cemetery or burial place *is located* in which are interred the bodies of persons who served in the U.S. armed forces of the United States in time of war as defined in s. 45.35 (5a) (a) to (g) or under section 1 of executive order 10957, dated August 10, 1961, or whose service entitled them to receive either the armed forces expeditionary medal, established by executive order 10977 on December 4, 1961, or the Viet Nam service medal established by executive order 11231 on July 8, 1965, shall file with the department a certificate on the forms provided by it of the facts required for such record, so far as the same are within the knowledge of such county veterans service officers. The department shall cause blank certificates to be distributed to such county veterans service officers as it deems advisable, with a request that such information be transmitted to it.

Approved July 1, 1966.
