

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 973 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY PENNYCUICK, TARTAGLIONE, DUSH, PHILLIPS-HILL, CAPPELLETTI, BAKER, BROWN, CULVER, MASTRIANO, J. WARD AND MUTH, OCTOBER 31, 2023

SENATOR MASTRIANO, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, AS AMENDED, APRIL 9, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, providing for
3 veteran of Korean Armed Forces.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 105. Veteran of Korean Armed Forces.

9 (a) Eligibility.--Any resident of this Commonwealth who is
10 an eligible veteran of the Korean Armed Forces and, a duly <--
11 naturalized citizen of the United States AND HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED <--
12 BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNDER 38
13 U.S.C. § 109 (RELATING TO BENEFITS FOR DISCHARGED MEMBERS OF
14 ALLIED FORCES) shall be afforded the same rights, benefits,
15 recognition and privileges as afforded to veterans of the United
16 States military forces.

17 (b) Proof of service.--Any appropriate Commonwealth agency

1 or department may request supporting documentation to determine
2 that an individual applying for benefits or recognition is an
3 eligible veteran of the Korean Armed Forces. A request may
4 include discharge or separation papers or other documents of
5 proof to establish military service AND DOCUMENTS FROM THE <--
6 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

7 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "eligible
8 veteran of the Korean Armed Forces" shall mean any member of the
9 Republic of Korea Armed Forces who served on active duty in the
10 Vietnam War between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, and
11 received an honorable discharge or equivalent discharge from <--
12 military service. HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES <--
13 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNDER 38 U.S.C. § 109.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.