

1 AN ACT concerning veterans.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Veterans Preference Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 1 and by adding Section 1.5 as follows:

6 (330 ILCS 55/1) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 23)

7 Sec. 1. Veterans preference.

8 (a) In the employment and appointment to fill positions in  
9 the construction, addition to, or alteration of all public  
10 works undertaken or contracted for by the State, or by any  
11 political subdivision thereof, preference shall be given to  
12 persons who have been members of the armed forces of the United  
13 States or who, while citizens of the United States, were  
14 members of the armed forces of allies of the United States in  
15 time of hostilities with a foreign country, and have served  
16 under one or more of the following conditions:

17 (1) The veteran served a total of at least 6 months, or

18 (2) The veteran served for the duration of hostilities  
19 regardless of the length of engagement, or

20 (3) The veteran served in the theater of operations  
21 but was discharged on the basis of a hardship, or

22 (4) The veteran was released from active duty because  
23 of a service connected disability and was honorably

1 discharged. But such preference shall be given only to  
2 those persons who are found to possess the business  
3 capacity necessary for the proper discharge of the duties  
4 of such employment. No political subdivision or person  
5 contracting for such public works is required to give  
6 preference to veterans, not residents of such district,  
7 over residents thereof, who are not veterans.

8 For the purposes of this Section, a person who has been a  
9 member of the Illinois National Guard shall be given priority  
10 over a person who has been a member of the National Guard of  
11 any other state.

12 (b) As used in this Act ~~Section~~:

13 "Time of hostilities with a foreign country" means any  
14 period of time in the past, present, or future during which a  
15 declaration of war by the United States Congress has been or is  
16 in effect or during which an emergency condition has been or is  
17 in effect that is recognized by the issuance of a Presidential  
18 proclamation or a Presidential executive order and in which  
19 the armed forces expeditionary medal or other campaign service  
20 medals are awarded according to Presidential executive order.

21 "Armed forces of the United States" means the United  
22 States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard,  
23 United States Reserve Forces, or the National Guard of any  
24 state. Service in the Merchant Marine that constitutes active  
25 duty under Section 401 of federal Public Law 95-202 shall also  
26 be considered service in the Armed Forces of the United States

1 for purposes of this Section.

2 (Source: P.A. 100-826, eff. 1-1-19.)

3 (330 ILCS 55/1.5 new)

4 Sec. 1.5. Seasonal employment with Department of  
5 Transportation. Persons who have been members of the armed  
6 forces of the United States or who, while citizens of the  
7 United States, were members of the armed forces of allies of  
8 the United States in time of hostilities with a foreign  
9 country, and have served under one or more of the conditions  
10 listed under subsection (a) of Section 1 shall be preferred  
11 for appointment to and employment with the Illinois Department  
12 of Transportation for the positions of snow removal operator  
13 and winter salaried highway maintainer under the Department's  
14 Winter Seasonal Employment Program.