



Substitute Senate Bill No. 169

Public Act No. 06-153

AN ACT CONCERNING DISABLED VETERANS' PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION, THE DEFINITION OF VETERAN AND THE REPORTING OF VETERAN'S BENEFITS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 12-81l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

Whenever used in sections 12-81f, 12-81g, 12-81i and 12-81j, "qualifying income" means, with respect to any person making application for exemption from property tax as provided under any of said sections, such person's total adjusted gross income as determined for purposes of the federal income tax plus any other income not included in such adjusted gross income, individually if unmarried, or jointly with spouse if married, during the calendar year ending immediately preceding the filing of a claim for any such exemption, but does not include veterans' disability payments. For purposes of determining eligibility for any of such exemptions, such qualifying income may not exceed fourteen thousand dollars, if unmarried, or sixteen thousand dollars, jointly with spouse, if married, provided in no event shall such maximum amounts of qualifying income with respect to any such person be less than the maximum amount of such qualifying income in the case of a married or unmarried person,

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whichever is applicable, under subsection (b) of section 12-170aa, as amended, and in the event that such maximum qualifying income under this section is less than the comparable amount under said subsection (b) of section 12-170aa, as amended, for any assessment year, such amount under this section shall be made equivalent to that under said subsection (b) of section 12-170aa, as amended, for purposes of determining eligibility under this section for such assessment year.

Sec. 2. Section 27-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

(a) As used in the general statutes, except chapter 504, and except as otherwise provided: (1) "Armed forces" means the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard performing duty as provided in Title 32 of the United States Code; (2) "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions from active service in, the armed forces; (3) "service in time of war" means service of ninety or more days except, if the period of war [, campaign or other operation] lasted less than ninety days, "service in time of war" means service for the entire [duration of the] period of war, [campaign or other operation,] unless separated from service earlier because of a service-connected disability rated by the Veterans' Administration, during a period of war; and (4) "period of war" [,] has the same meaning as [defined] provided in 38 USC 101, as amended, except that the "Vietnam Era" means the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on July 1, 1975, in all cases; and "period of war" shall include service while engaged in combat or a combat support role in Lebanon, July 1, 1958, to November 1, 1958, or September 29, 1982, to March 30, 1984; Grenada, October 25, 1983, to December 15, 1983; Operation Earnest Will, involving the escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers flying the United States flag

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in the Persian Gulf, February 1, 1987, to July 23, 1987; and Panama, December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990, and shall include service during such periods with the armed forces of any government associated with the United States.

(b) As used in this part, "home" means the Veterans' Home maintained by the state; "hospital" means any incorporated hospital or tuberculosis sanatorium in the state and any state chronic disease hospital, mental hospital or training school for the mentally retarded, "veteran" means any veteran who served in time of war, as defined [by] in subsection (a) of this section, and who is a resident of this state, provided, if he was not a resident or resident alien of this state at the time of enlistment or induction into the armed forces, he shall have resided continuously in this state for at least two years; "eligible dependent" means any parent, wife or husband, or child of a veteran who has no adequate means of support; and "eligible family member" means any parent, brother or sister, wife or husband, or child or children under eighteen years of age, of any veteran whose cooperation in the program is integral to the treatment of the veteran.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) (a) Not later than July 15, 2007, and annually thereafter, each state agency or municipality that provides benefits to veterans, as defined in section 27-103 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs that includes a description of each type of benefit provided to veterans, the value of such benefit and the number of veterans to whom such benefit was provided, for the twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of the same year. The commissioner shall compile the data in such report.

(b) Not later than August 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs shall submit a report of the data compiled pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, for the twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of the same year, to the Military

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Department and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall specify the total number of veterans receiving benefits and the value of such benefits by category of benefit and in total for such period.

Approved June 6, 2006