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Referred: State Affairs

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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 478

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Veterans' loans and
7 bonuses and extension of benefits under the
8 Military Affairs and Veterans' Act; and
9 providing for an effective date."

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 * Section 1. AS 26.15.120 is amended to read:

12 Sec. 26.15.120. BONUS PAYMENTS. The payment of a bonus
13 may be made to eligible persons who apply for it and who have
14 not previously disqualified themselves by contracting a loan
15 under this chapter. The bonus is a sum in dollars equal
16 to the number of months which the veteran spent in service,
17 or fraction of it, multiplied by 10, except as provided in
18 sec. 155(3) of this chapter. [BUT] No [NO] bonus shall be
19 paid to an enlistee or re-enlistee for time served after
20 November 1, 1945, regardless of whether the enlistment or
21 re-enlistment was before or after November 1, 1945, except as
22 provided in sec. 155 of this chapter. The Department of
23 Commerce shall administer the payment of bonuses in accordance
24 with its rules and procedures.

25 * Sec. 2. AS 26.15.110 is amended to read:

26 Sec. 26.15.110. LIMITATION ON SECURING BONUS AND LOAN.
27 Persons eligible for loans under this chapter are eligible
28 for the bonus provided for by this chapter, but no bonus may
29 be paid to a person who has received a loan under this chapter

1 [, AND NO BONUS MAY BE PAID AFTER JULY 1, 1964].

2 * Sec. 3. AS 26.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

3 Sec. 26.15.155. EXTENSION OF BONUS PAYMENTS TO VETERANS
4 RECEIVING THE KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL, THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDI-
5 TIONARY MEDAL, THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL
6 AND THE VIET NAM SERVICE MEDAL. The bonus provisions of
7 this chapter are extended to a person who received the Korean
8 Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, or the
9 Viet Nam Service Medal, subject to the following provisions
10 and eligibility qualifications:

11 (1) A person is eligible

12 (A) who served in the armed forces of the
13 United States for one year or more, or whose service
14 was for a lesser period because of injury or disability
15 incurred in line of duty, and received the Korean
16 Service Medal;

17 (B) who served in the armed forces of the
18 United States for one year or more, or whose service
19 was for a lesser period because of injury or disability
20 incurred in line of duty, and received the Armed Forces
21 Expeditionary Medal;

22 (C) who served in the armed forces of the
23 United States for one year or more, or whose service
24 was for a lesser period because of injury or disability
25 incurred in line of duty, and received the Navy and
26 Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal; or

27 (D) who served in the armed forces of the
28 United States for one year or more, or whose service
29 was for a lesser period because of injury or disability

1 incurred in line of duty, and received the Viet Nam
2 Service Medal; and

3 (E) who was separated from the armed forces
4 with an honorable discharge or honorable separation; and

5 (F) who at the time of induction into the
6 service was a resident of the Territory of Alaska or
7 the State of Alaska and had been a resident for not less
8 than one year immediately before their induction; and

9 (G) who returned to the territory or state
10 after discharge as a resident with the intention of
11 remaining in the territory or state.

12 (2) For a person otherwise eligible for the
13 benefits under this section, who did not return to the state
14 or territory within one year after separation from the service
15 unless prevented from doing so for medical, educational or
16 other valid purposes approved by the Department of Commerce
17 within one year after separation from the service, an addi-
18 tional requirement of five years' residence in the territory
19 or state immediately before the time of induction is imposed
20 to entitle him to the benefit provisions of this section;

21 (3) The payment of a bonus to a person eligible
22 under this section shall be a sum in dollars equal to the
23 number of months the specific medal held by the applicant
24 was authorized to be given to persons serving in the theater
25 of operations where the applicant received his medal, multi-
26 plied by 10.

27 * Sec. 4. AS 26.15.160 is amended to read:

28 Sec. 26.15.160. EXTENSION OF CHAPTER TO [KOREA]
29 VETERANS OF KOREA AND VIET NAM, AND TO RECIPIENTS OF THE

1 ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL OR THE NAVY AND MARINE
2 CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL. The loan provisions of this
3 chapter [, EXCEPT THOSE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE PAYMENT
4 OF BONUSES,] are extended to persons who served honorably
5 on active duty between June 25, 1950, and January 31, 1955, who
6 served honorably on active duty between August 4, 1964,
7 and six months after termination of hostilities involving
8 forces of the United States in Viet Nam, who received the
9 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, or who received the Navy
10 and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, and to dependents of
11 such persons, subject to the following provisions and eligi-
12 bility qualifications.

13 (1) Persons are eligible

14 (A) who served in the armed forces of the
15 United States for 90 days or more, or whose service was
16 for a lesser period because of injury, or disability
17 incurred in line of duty, between June 25, 1950, the
18 beginning of the conflict in Korea, and January 31, 1955;

19 (B) who served in the armed forces of the
20 United States for 90 days or more, or whose service was
21 for a lesser period because of injury, or disability
22 incurred in line of duty, and who received the Armed
23 Forces Expeditionary Medal or the Navy and Marine Corps
24 Expeditionary Medal;

25 (C) who served in the armed forces of the
26 United States for 90 days or more, or whose service was
27 for a lesser period because of injury, or disability
28 incurred in line of duty, between August 4, 1964 and a
29 date to be determined by the legislature which shall be

1 on or about six months after the termination of
2 hostilities involving forces of the United States in
3 Viet Nam; and

4 (D) who were honorably separated or dis-
5 charged from the armed forces or who were released to
6 a reserve component; and

7 (E) who at the time of entry into the service
8 were bona fide residents of the territory or State of
9 Alaska and had been residents of the territory or state
10 for not less than one year before their entry into the
11 service; and

12 (F) who have returned to the territory or
13 state within a reasonable length of time after discharge
14 or separation as residents with the intention of re-
15 maining in the territory or state; or

16 (G) who, not being bona fide residents of
17 the territory or the state before their entry into the
18 service, have lived in the territory or state for at
19 least 10 years following their release from active
20 military service.

21 (2) Persons are eligible who were dependent upon
22 a member of the armed forces or upon a veteran eligible for
23 the benefits of this chapter at the time of the member's or
24 veteran's death if the member or veteran was a resident of
25 the territory or state for one year before entry into service
26 and died before the cessation of the present national
27 emergency as determined and proclaimed by the governor
28 or who died before the cessation of hostilities in any
29 theater of operations where the veteran received or was

1 entitled to the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, or the
2 Navy and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal. Dependents shall
3 be unmarried and the deceased veteran or member of the armed
4 forces shall have been their chief means of support and they
5 shall be either a widow, widower, minor child, or a mother,
6 father, sister or brother incapable of self-support. Depen-
7 dents shall be residents of the state at the time of applica-
8 tion and shall intend to remain residents in the state
9 permanently. The rights of minor children under this chapter
10 may be exercised only if they have no surviving parent and
11 have an appointed guardian who may apply on their behalf for
12 the benefits of this chapter for their care, support or edu-
13 cation.

14 (3) No person unless he has lived in the state or
15 territory for at least 10 years following his release from
16 active military service is eligible for the benefits of this
17 chapter who is eligible for veterans' benefits under the
18 laws of any other state or territory. A World War II veteran
19 who received a bonus under secs. 120 and 150 of this chapter
20 need not repay the bonus in order to qualify under the loan
21 provisions of this section.

22 (4) For persons otherwise eligible for the benefits
23 under this section, who did not return to the state or terri-
24 tory within one year after separation from the service unless
25 prevented from doing so for medical, educational or other
26 valid purposes approved by the Department of Commerce within
27 one year after separation from the service, an additional
28 requirement of four years' residence in the state or terri-
29 tory before their entry into the service is imposed to

1 entitle them to the benefit provisions of this section.

2 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage
3 and approval or on the day it becomes law without such approval.

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