

1 H.531

2 Introduced by Representatives Stone of Burlington and Pinsonault of Dorset

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Executive; classification of State employees; military spouse

6 preference

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to grant
8 preference for employment with the State to qualified spouses of personnel
9 currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces by awarding additional points on
10 any point-based examination.

11 An act relating to creating a preference for military spouses in hiring into
12 State employment

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 310 is amended to read:

15 § 310. CLASSIFICATION PLAN; RULES

16 * * *

17 (f) The Classification and Compensation Plan and the rules for personnel
18 administration shall be based on merit system principles and shall provide for
19 compliance with the laws relating to preference granted to qualified persons
20 who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and received honorable discharge.

1 (g)(1) After the requirements of an applicable collective bargaining
2 agreement have been satisfied with regard to hiring issues and after compliance
3 with subsection 327(a) of this title, and consistent with applicable State or
4 federal standards for affirmative action, the State shall make a diligent effort to
5 recruit, interview, and hire:

6 (A) those applicants who meet the definition of a veteran as defined
7 by 38 U.S.C. § 101 and who received an honorable discharge; ~~and~~

8 (B) the spouses of veterans, as defined in subdivision (A) of this
9 subdivision (1), who currently receive disability compensation or improved
10 pension from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and are unable to work
11 due to disability and the surviving spouses of veterans in cases where the
12 surviving spouse currently receives dependency indemnity compensation from
13 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and

14 (C) the spouses of personnel currently serving in the U.S. Armed
15 Forces.

16 (2) Veterans and spouses of personnel currently serving in the U.S.
17 Armed Forces who apply for and meet the requirements for any open
18 competitive recruitment that is conducted using a point-based examination and
19 who receive a passing score shall have five points added to their competitive
20 examination rating, and service-connected disabled veterans, veterans'
21 unremarried widows or widowers, and spouses of totally service-connected

1 disabled veterans who meet the requirements for any open competitive
2 examination and who receive a passing score shall have ~~ten~~ 10 points added to
3 their competitive examination rating, subject to the provisions contained in 20
4 V.S.A. § 1543.

5 (h) Those individuals qualifying under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this section
6 shall be entitled to apply and compete for vacant positions for which
7 recruitment is being conducted only on a statewide promotional basis.

8 * * *

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.