

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Revised

House Bill 1298

(Delegate Boteler, *et al.*)

Appropriations

Budget and Taxation

State Personnel - Appointments in Skilled and Professional Services - Veterans

This bill expands the definition of “eligible veteran” to include individuals who have served in the National Guard or military reserves for the purpose of giving these individuals additional points on a selection test for State employment. The bill also adds a former prisoner of war to the list of veterans who can receive an additional two points on a selection test for State employment.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s changes would not materially impact State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A veteran who has been honorably discharged from military service or has received a certificate of satisfactory completion of military service, the spouse of an eligible veteran with a service-connected disability, or the surviving spouse of a deceased eligible veteran receives 10 points on any selection test. An eligible veteran with a service connected disability receives 2 additional points on any selection test, for a total of 12 points. Exceptions to this policy are current State employees and eligible veterans who were convicted of a crime after being discharged from, or completing, military service.

Background: For employment in the federal government, a “preference-eligible” who receives a passing grade in an examination for entrance into the competitive service is entitled to additional points above his/her rating. Thus, an eligible disabled veteran, the unmarried widow or widower of an eligible veteran, the spouse of a disabled eligible veteran, or the mother of an individual who lost his/her life under honorable conditions or whose child has a service-connected and permanent disability (within certain parameters) receives 10 additional points. Other eligible veterans receive five additional points on their earned rating.

DBM advises that, as of January 16, 2006, there were 668 eligible veterans or spouses of eligible veterans on eligibility lists receiving veteran’s preference points. Of these, 20 were disabled veterans and 2 were eligible spouses of veterans.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 732 (Senator Stone) – Finance.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 8, 2006
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