

By Senator Geller

31-227-07

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to periods of wartime service for veterans; amending s. 1.01, F.S.; redefining the term "veteran" for purposes of construing the Florida Statutes to include a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraphs (h) and (i) are added to subsection (14) of section 1.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

1.01 Definitions.--In construing these statutes and each and every word, phrase, or part hereof, where the context will permit:

(14) The term "veteran" means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions only or who later received an upgraded discharge under honorable conditions, notwithstanding any action by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs on individuals discharged or released with other than honorable discharges. To receive benefits as a wartime veteran, a veteran must have served in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized or a veteran must have served during one of the following periods of wartime service:

(h) Operation Enduring Freedom: October 7, 2001, to the conclusion of the operation.

1 (i) Operation Iraqi Freedom: March 19, 2003, to the
2 conclusion of the operation.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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6 SENATE SUMMARY

7 Redefines the term "veteran" for purposes of statutory
8 construction to include a person who served in the active
9 military, naval, or air service in the Operation Enduring
10 Freedom or the Operation Iraqi Freedom campaigns or
11 expeditions.
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