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RH/CL

P.L. 2017, CHAPTER 292, *approved January 16, 2018*  
Senate Committee Substitute for  
Senate, Nos. 1534 and 1771

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for county identification cards for  
2 veterans and amending P.L.2012, c.30.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.2) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. As used in this act, P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.1 et seq.),  
10 "veteran" means a person who has served in the Army, Navy, Air  
11 Force, Marines or Coast Guard of the United States or a Reserve  
12 component thereof or the National Guard of this State or another  
13 State as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and  
14 has been honorably discharged or released under conditions other  
15 than dishonorable from such service.

16 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.2)

17

18 2. Section 4 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.4) is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 4. a. When such a program has been authorized, the county  
21 clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate, shall issue  
22 an identification card to any veteran who is a resident of the county  
23 and who does not hold an identification card issued by the federal  
24 government that identifies the person as a veteran. The veteran  
25 identification card shall bear the true name, branch of the **[armed**  
26 **forces]** military in which the veteran served, date of card issuance,  
27 separation form submitted, and other identifying information as  
28 certified by the applicant for such veteran identification card.  
29 Every application for a veteran identification card shall be signed  
30 and certified by the applicant and shall be supported by such  
31 documentary evidence as the county clerk or register of deeds and  
32 mortgages, as appropriate, may require.

33 b. The documentary evidence required by subsection a. of this  
34 section shall include the applicant's DD-214 form issued by the  
35 federal government or approved separation forms as outlined by all  
36 branches of the military and duly recorded by the office. The  
37 county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate,  
38 shall require a copy of the **[applicant's DD-214 form]** documentary  
39 evidence submitted to be kept on file with the application for **[a]**  
40 the veteran identification card, and shall note the location of the  
41 original DD-214 or other approved separation form on that

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 application form. The copy of the **【DD-214】** documentary  
2 evidence submitted and the application shall be kept confidential  
3 and shall not be considered a government record under P.L.1963,  
4 c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), except that they may be released to  
5 another government agency. The Adjutant General of the  
6 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall assist in the  
7 identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation  
8 forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by  
9 applicants.

10 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.4)

11

12 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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17 Expands acceptable military separation forms for county veteran  
18 identification card; allows issuance to National Guard veterans of  
19 other states.

**SENATE, No. 1534**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**217th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 16, 2016

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Permits county clerk to accept additional approved separation forms for issuing county veteran identification card; allows issuance of card only for honorable service or service under honorable conditions.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S1534 PENNACCHIO

2

1 AN ACT concerning county veteran identification cards and  
2 amending P.L.2012, c.30

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.4) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. As used in this act, P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.1 et seq.),  
10 "veteran" means a person who has served in the Army, Navy, Air  
11 Force, Marines or Coast Guard of the United States or a Reserve  
12 component thereof or the National Guard of this State as defined in  
13 section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and has been honorably  
14 discharged or released **[under conditions other than dishonorable]**  
15 or generally discharged or released under honorable conditions from  
16 such service.

17 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.2)

18

19 2. Section 4 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.4) is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 4. a. When such a program has been authorized, the county  
22 clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate, shall issue  
23 an identification card to any veteran who is a resident of the county,  
24 who does not hold an identification card issued by the federal  
25 government that identifies the person as a veteran, and who was  
26 either honorably discharged or released or generally discharged or  
27 released under honorable conditions. The veteran identification  
28 card shall bear the true name, branch of the **[armed forces]** military  
29 in which the veteran served, date of card issuance, separation form  
30 submitted, and other identifying information as certified by the  
31 applicant for such veteran identification card. Every application for  
32 a veteran identification card shall be signed and certified by the  
33 applicant and shall be supported by such documentary evidence as  
34 the county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate,  
35 may require.

36 b. The documentary evidence required by subsection a. of this  
37 section shall include the applicant's DD-214 form issued by the  
38 federal government or approved separation forms as outlined by all  
39 branches of the military and duly recorded by the county clerk's  
40 office. The county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as  
41 appropriate, shall require a copy of the **[applicant's DD-214 form]**  
42 documentary evidence submitted to be kept on file with the  
43 application for **[a]** the veteran identification card, and shall note the  
44 location of the original DD-214 or other approved separation form

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

**S1534 PENNACCHIO**

3

1 on that application form. The copy of the **【DD-214】** documentary  
2 evidence submitted and the application shall be kept confidential  
3 and shall not be considered a government record under P.L.1963,  
4 c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), except that they may be released to  
5 another government agency.  
6 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.4)

7

8 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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13 This bill permits a county clerk to accept additional approved  
14 separation forms other than DD Form 214 (DD-214) for issuing a  
15 county veteran identification card.

16 Under current law, the documentary evidence that a veteran must  
17 submit in order to receive a county veteran identification card must  
18 include a DD-214. This excludes those men and women who have  
19 proudly served their country but do not possess a DD-214,  
20 notwithstanding that other separation forms are issued and approved  
21 by various branches of the military. This bill would amend the law  
22 to allow county clerks to accept those other approved separation  
23 forms, as specified by all branches of the military, when issuing a  
24 county veteran identification card.

25 Further, this bill requires that all county veteran identification  
26 cards indicate on the card the date of card issuance and type of  
27 separation form submitted by the veteran to the county clerk as part  
28 of the veteran's documentary evidence, for example, "DD Form  
29 214," or "WD AGO 53."

30 This bill also amends the law to specify that only those veterans  
31 who were honorably discharged or released or generally discharged  
32 or released under honorable conditions are eligible to receive a  
33 county veteran identification card. Current law provides that  
34 anyone discharged or released under conditions other than  
35 dishonorable is eligible to receive the card.

SENATE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE, Nos. 1534 and 1771**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JULY 14, 2016

The Senate Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Nos. 1534 and 1771.

Under current law, the document that a veteran is required to submit in order to receive a county veteran identification card is the DD-214. This committee substitute would allow other approved separation forms, as specified by all branches of the military, to be accepted from an applicant for a county veteran identification card. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs would assist in the identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by applicants.

The committee substitute requires that all county veteran identification cards indicate the date of card issuance and type of separation form submitted by the veteran as part of the veteran's documentary evidence, for example, "DD Form 214," or "WD AGO 53."

The committee substitute also removes the restriction that limits the issuance of the card only to veterans of the National Guard of this State. Under this substitute, veterans who served in the National Guard of other states would be eligible for the card.



ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE, Nos. 1534 and 1771**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2017

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Nos. 1534 and 1771.

Under current law, the document that a veteran is required to submit in order to receive a county veteran identification card is the DD-214. This committee substitute would allow other approved separation forms, as specified by all branches of the military, to be accepted from an applicant for a county veteran identification card. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs would assist in the identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by applicants.

The committee substitute requires that all county veteran identification cards indicate the date of card issuance and type of separation form submitted by the veteran as part of the veteran's documentary evidence, for example, "DD Form 214," or "WD AGO 53."

The committee substitute also removes the restriction that limits the issuance of the card only to veterans of the National Guard of this State. Under this substitute, veterans who served in the National Guard of other states would be eligible for the card.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1249

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ANTHONY M. BUCCO**

**District 25 (Morris and Somerset)**

**Assemblyman CHRIS A. BROWN**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblyman PARKER SPACE**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Expands acceptable military separation forms for county veteran identification card; allows issuance to National Guard veterans of other states; allows issuance only for certain classifications.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/16/2017)

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for county identification cards for  
2 veterans and amending P.L.2012, c.30.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.2) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. As used in this act, P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.1 et seq.),  
10 "veteran" means a person who has served in the Army, Navy, Air  
11 Force, Marines or Coast Guard of the United States or a Reserve  
12 component thereof or the National Guard of this State or another  
13 state as defined in section 1 of P.L.1963, c.109 (C.38A:1-1), and  
14 has been honorably discharged or released **【under conditions other**  
15 **than dishonorable】** , or generally discharged or released under  
16 honorable conditions, from such service.

17 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.2)

18

19 2. Section 4 of P.L.2012, c.30 (C.40A:9-78.4) is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 4. a. When such a program has been authorized, the county  
22 clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate, shall issue  
23 an identification card to any veteran who is a resident of the county  
24 and who does not hold an identification card issued by the federal  
25 government that identifies the person as a veteran. The veteran  
26 identification card shall bear the true name, branch of the **【armed**  
27 **forces】** military in which the veteran served, date of card issuance,  
28 separation form submitted, and other identifying information as  
29 certified by the applicant for such veteran identification card.  
30 Every application for a veteran identification card shall be signed  
31 and certified by the applicant and shall be supported by such  
32 documentary evidence as the county clerk or register of deeds and  
33 mortgages, as appropriate, may require.

34 b. The documentary evidence required by subsection a. of this  
35 section shall include the applicant's DD-214 form issued by the  
36 federal government or approved separation forms as outlined by all  
37 branches of the military and duly recorded by the office. The  
38 county clerk or register of deeds and mortgages, as appropriate,  
39 shall require a copy of the **【applicant's DD-214 form】** documentary  
40 evidence submitted to be kept on file with the application for **【a】**  
41 the veteran identification card, and shall note the location of the  
42 original DD-214 or other approved separation form on that  
43 application form. The copy of the **【DD-214】** documentary  
44 evidence submitted and the application shall be kept confidential  
45 and shall not be considered a government record under P.L.1963,

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), except that they may be released to  
2 another government agency. The Adjutant General of the  
3 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall assist in the  
4 identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation  
5 forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by  
6 applicants.

7 (cf: P.L.2012, c.30, s.4)

8

9 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

10

11

12

### STATEMENT

13

14 Under current law, the document that a veteran is required to  
15 submit in order to receive a county veteran identification card is the  
16 DD-214. This bill would allow other approved separation forms, as  
17 specified by all branches of the military, to be accepted from an  
18 applicant for a county veteran identification card. The Adjutant  
19 General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs would  
20 assist in the identification, and verification as needed, of approved  
21 separation forms as outlined by all branches of the military and  
22 submitted by applicants.

23 The bill requires that all county veteran identification cards  
24 indicate the date of card issuance and type of separation form  
25 submitted by the veteran as part of the veteran's documentary  
26 evidence, for example, "DD Form 214," or "WD AGO 53."

27 The bill also removes the restriction that limits the issuance of  
28 the card only to veterans of the National Guard of this State. Under  
29 this bill, veterans who served in the National Guard of other states  
30 would be eligible for the card.

31 Finally, the bill specifies that only those veterans who were  
32 honorably discharged or released, or generally discharged or  
33 released under honorable conditions, are eligible to receive a county  
34 veteran identification card. Current law provides that anyone  
35 discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable is  
36 eligible to receive the card.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
ASSEMBLY, No. 1249

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2017

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1249.

Under current law, the document that a veteran is required to submit in order to receive a county veteran identification card is the DD-214. This bill would allow other approved separation forms, as specified by all branches of the military, to be accepted from an applicant for a county veteran identification card. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs would assist in the identification, and verification as needed, of approved separation forms as outlined by all branches of the military and submitted by applicants.

The bill requires that all county veteran identification cards indicate the date of card issuance and type of separation form submitted by the veteran as part of the veteran's documentary evidence, for example, "DD Form 214," or "WD AGO 53."

The bill also removes the restriction that limits the issuance of the card only to veterans of the National Guard of this State. Under this bill, veterans who served in the National Guard of other states would be eligible for the card.

Finally, as amended, the bill specifies that only those veterans who were honorably discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, are eligible to receive a county veteran identification card.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2016-2017 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to return the discharge requirements back to current law so as to apply to veterans who were honorably discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. These amendments make this bill identical to Senate No. 1534/1771 (SCS).