

11 A: 5-12

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(US Coast Guard)

NJSA: 11A:5-12

LAWS OF: 1997 CHAPTER: 244

BILL NO: S631

SPONSOR(S): Cafiero and Singer

DATE INTRODUCED: February 5, 1996

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Commerce
SENATE: State Management

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: June 23, 1997
SENATE: December 16, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: September 5, 1997

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBP:pp

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 244, *approved September 5, 1997*
Senate, No. 631

1 AN ACT authorizing special preference in appointments and
2 promotions for certain former members of the United States Coast
3 Guard and amending N.J.S.11A:5-12.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 1. N.J.S.11A:5-12 is amended to read as follows:

9 11A:5-12. Employment or promotion of persons awarded
10 **[Congressional]** Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air
11 Force Cross or Navy Cross. Any individual who has served in the
12 Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States and who
13 has been awarded the **[Congressional]** Medal of Honor, the
14 Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross, while a
15 resident of this State, and any individual who has served in the United
16 States Coast Guard and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor or
17 the Navy Cross while a resident of this State, shall be appointed or
18 promoted without complying with the rules of the board. The
19 appointing authority to whom the individual applies for appointment
20 or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint or promote that person.
21 Upon promotion or appointment, that person shall become subject to
22 the rules of the board. A person who qualifies under this section shall
23 not be limited to only one appointment or promotion.

24 (cf: N.J.S.11A:5-12)
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26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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29 STATEMENT
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31 This bill provides that former members of the United States Coast
32 Guard who have been awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross
33 while a resident of this State shall be appointed or promoted to a
34 career service position without complying with the rules of the Merit

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 System Board. The appointing authority to whom the individual
2 applies for appointment or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint
3 or promote that person. Upon promotion or appointment, that person
4 shall become subject to the rules of the board. A person who qualifies
5 under this act shall not be limited to only one appointment or
6 promotion.

7 At present, this privilege is granted to any individual who has
8 served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United
9 States and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, the
10 Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross while a
11 resident of this State.

12 The bill also updates the existing reference to the "Congressional
13 Medal of Honor," which is now called the "Medal of Honor."
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Authorizes special preference in appointments and promotions for
former members of the Coast Guard who have received the Medal of
Honor or Navy Cross.

SENATE, No. 631

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 1996

By Senators CAFIERO and SINGER

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12 Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States and who
13 has been awarded the **【Congressional】** Medal of Honor, the
14 Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross, while a
15 resident of this State, and any individual who has served in the United
16 States Coast Guard and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor or
17 the Navy Cross while a resident of this State, shall be appointed or
18 promoted without complying with the rules of the board. The
19 appointing authority to whom the individual applies for appointment
20 or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint or promote that person.
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5 under this act shall not be limited to only one appointment or
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ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND MILITARY AND VETERANS'
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 631

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 12, 1997

The Assembly Commerce and Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 631.

This bill provides that former members of the United States Coast Guard who have been awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross while a resident of this State shall be appointed or promoted to a career service position without complying with the rules of the Merit System Board. The appointing authority to whom the individual applies for appointment or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint or promote that person. Upon promotion or appointment, that person shall become subject to the rules of the board. A person who qualifies under this act shall not be limited to only one appointment or promotion.

At present, this privilege is granted to any individual who has served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross while a resident of this State.

The bill also updates the existing reference to the "Congressional Medal of Honor," which is now called the "Medal of Honor."

SENATE STATE MANAGEMENT, INVESTMENT AND
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 631

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 9, 1996

The Senate State Management, Investment and Financial Institutions Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 631.

This bill provides that a former member of the United States Coast Guard who has been awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross while a resident of this State shall be appointed or promoted to a career service position without complying with the rules of the Merit System Board. The appointing authority to whom the individual applies for appointment or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint or promote that person. Upon promotion or appointment, that person shall become subject to the rules of the board. A person who qualifies under this act shall not be limited to only one appointment or promotion.

At present, this privilege is granted to any individual who has served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross while a resident of this State.

The bill also updates the existing reference to the "Congressional Medal of Honor," which is now called the "Medal of Honor."

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

CN-004

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**RELEASE: FRIDAY,
Sept. 5, 1997**

Governor Signs Legislation Extending Preferential Hiring Treatment To Coast Guard Members Who Received Medal of Honor or Navy Cross

Gov. Christie Whitman today paid tribute to the men and women of the United States Coast Guard as she signed legislation extending preferential treatment for employment and promotions under the New Jersey Civil Service Merit System to Coast Guard veterans who received the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross.

The bill extends to Coast Guard members the same preferential hiring treatment previously accorded to honors recipients from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

"Today, we are rectifying an oversight in state law that has denied certain Coast Guard veterans the same employment and promotion opportunities available to members of other branches of the service," Whitman said. "Now, these Coast Guard veterans -- persons who have received our nation's highest military honors -- will receive the recognition they are due. As far as I'm concerned, those who have proved themselves through heroic service in America's defense shouldn't have to prove themselves on a civil service exam. They've earned far more gratitude that we can possibly express."

Under the new law, **S-631**, appointing authorities in state, county and local governments which are in the New Jersey Civil Service Merit System can hire or promote without Merit System Board examinations Coast Guard veterans who received the Medal of Honor or Navy Cross. Previously, only veterans who served in the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps who received either the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross were eligible for exemptions from the examinations.

(more)

The bill was sponsored by Senators James S. Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Robert W. Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean).

Whitman said on an average day, the men and women of the United States Coast Guard save 32 lives, respond to 34 oil or hazardous chemical spills, seize more than \$8 million in illegal contraband, and conduct 142 search and rescue missions.

According to the Governor, 35,000 men and women serving in the Coast Guard and 1,000 Coast Guard veterans live in New Jersey.

“As the smallest of the nation’s armed services, the Coast Guard doesn’t always receive the recognition it deserves,” Whitman said. “But those of us who know what they do --and know how important the Coast Guard’s work is -- don’t make that mistake. The Coast Guard is ‘Always Ready’ -- ready to interdict drug smugglers seeking to bring their poison to our shores, ready to aid mariners in distress, and ready to enforce the law of the seas.”

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