



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1059

Introduced 1/9/2025, by Rep. Dave Vella

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

330 ILCS 45/1

from Ch. 23, par. 3081

Amends the Military Veterans Assistance Act. Defines "veteran" to mean any person who (i) served on active duty in the armed forces for at least 90 days and whose last discharge or release was under conditions other than dishonorable; or (ii) served on active duty, to include active duty solely for training purposes, in the armed forces, and was awarded a service-connected disability or who died in such service under conditions other than dishonorable; or (iii) served in the National Guard or as a reservist in any branch of the armed forces, including active duty solely for training purposes, and was awarded a service-connected disability or who died in such service under conditions other than dishonorable; or (iv) is determined to be a veteran according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; provided, that in any case, the service of such person qualified under items (i) through (iv) was entered into or served in Illinois, or such person has resided in the State for one day, except for the purpose of determining the residential eligibility of a deceased veteran's dependents.

LRB104 02856 KTG 12866 b

1 AN ACT concerning veterans.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Military Veterans Assistance Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 1 as follows:

6 (330 ILCS 45/1) (from Ch. 23, par. 3081)

7 Sec. 1. Definitions. As used in this Act:

8 "Veteran" means any person who (i) served on active duty  
9 in the armed forces for at least 90 days and whose last  
10 discharge or release was under conditions other than  
11 dishonorable; or (ii) served on active duty, to include active  
12 duty solely for training purposes, in the armed forces, and  
13 was awarded a service-connected disability or who died in such  
14 service under conditions other than dishonorable; or (iii)  
15 served in the National Guard or as a reservist in any branch of  
16 the armed forces, including active duty solely for training  
17 purposes, and was awarded a service-connected disability or  
18 who died in such service under conditions other than  
19 dishonorable; or (iv) is determined to be a veteran according  
20 to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; provided, that in  
21 any case, the service of such person qualified under items (i)  
22 through (iv) was entered into or served in Illinois, or such  
23 person has resided in the State for one day, except for the

1 purpose of determining the residential eligibility of a  
2 deceased veteran's dependents.

3 "Veteran service organization" means a post, ship, camp,  
4 chapter, or detachment of a congressionally chartered or state  
5 chartered organization that (i) is formed by and for veterans,  
6 (ii) has a paid membership of at least 15 individuals, and  
7 (iii) provides responsible aid, assistance, or services to the  
8 veteran community.

9 "Administrator of military veterans assistance" means the  
10 commanders of the various veteran service organizations, the  
11 superintendent of a County Veterans Assistance Commission, or  
12 other persons whose duty it is, under the existing statutes,  
13 to care for, relieve or maintain, wholly or in part, any person  
14 who may be entitled to such assistance under the statutes of  
15 the State of Illinois. This Act shall not infringe upon the  
16 mandated powers and authorities vested in the Illinois  
17 Department of Veterans' Affairs.

18 (Source: P.A. 102-732, eff. 1-1-23; 102-1132, eff. 2-10-23.)