

# SB2693



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2693

Introduced 10/14/2025, by Sen. Darby A. Hills

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 415/8b.7

from Ch. 127, par. 63b108b.7

Amends the Personnel Code. Provides that a veteran is qualified for a preference of 5 points if the veteran served in active service for a total consecutive or non-consecutive period of at least 3 years, including as a member of the Illinois National Guard in service to the State of Illinois and including for training or other purposes. Adds a definition.

LRB104 15164 BDA 28308 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Personnel Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 8b.7 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 415/8b.7) (from Ch. 127, par. 63b108b.7)

7 Sec. 8b.7. Veteran preference. For the granting of  
8 appropriate preference to qualified veterans, persons who have  
9 been members of the armed forces of the United States or to  
10 qualified persons who, while citizens of the United States,  
11 were members of the armed forces of allies of the United States  
12 in time of hostilities with a foreign country, and to certain  
13 other persons as set forth in this Section.

14 (a) As used in this Section:

15 (1) "Time of hostilities with a foreign country" means  
16 any period of time in the past, present, or future during  
17 which a declaration of war by the United States Congress  
18 has been or is in effect or during which an emergency  
19 condition has been or is in effect that is recognized by  
20 the issuance of a Presidential proclamation or a  
21 Presidential executive order and in which the armed forces  
22 expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are  
23 awarded according to Presidential executive order.

1           (2) "Armed forces of the United States" means the  
2 United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marine  
3 Corps, and Coast Guard. Service in the Merchant Marine  
4 that constitutes active duty under Section 401 of federal  
5 Public Law 95-202 shall also be considered service in the  
6 Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of this  
7 Section.

8           (3) "Veteran" means a member of the armed forces of  
9 the United States, the Illinois National Guard, or a  
10 reserve component of the armed forces of the United  
11 States.

12           (4) "Active service" means full-time service as a  
13 member of the armed forces of the United States, the  
14 Illinois National Guard, or a reserve component of the  
15 armed forces of the United States. "Active service"  
16 includes full-time service as a member of the Illinois  
17 National Guard or a reserve component of the armed forces  
18 of the United States for active duty training, inactive  
19 duty training, or other purposes. "Active service" also  
20 includes full-time service as a member of the Illinois  
21 National Guard in service to the State of Illinois.

22           (5) "Full-time service" means any duty, service, or  
23 employment as a member of the armed forces of the United  
24 States, the Illinois National Guard, or a reserve  
25 component of the armed forces of the United States for at  
26 least 6 hours in a day or at least 30 hours in a week.

1 (b) The preference granted under this Section shall be in  
2 the form of points, or the equivalent, added to the applicable  
3 scores of the persons if they otherwise qualify and are  
4 entitled to be considered for appointment.

5 (c) A veteran is qualified for a preference of 10 points if  
6 the veteran currently holds proof of a service connected  
7 disability from the United States Department of Veterans  
8 Affairs or an allied country or if the veteran is a recipient  
9 of the Purple Heart.

10 (d) A veteran ~~who has served during a time of hostilities~~  
11 ~~with a foreign country~~ is qualified for a preference of 5  
12 points if the veteran served under one or more of the following  
13 conditions:

14 (1) the ~~The~~ veteran served during a time of  
15 hostilities with a foreign country for a total of at least  
16 6 months; τ or

17 (2) the ~~The~~ veteran served during a time of  
18 hostilities with a foreign country for the duration of  
19 hostilities regardless of the length of engagement; τ or

20 (3) the ~~The~~ veteran served during a time of  
21 hostilities with a foreign country and was discharged on  
22 the basis of hardship; τ or

23 (4) the ~~The~~ veteran served during a time of  
24 hostilities with a foreign country and was released from  
25 active duty because of a service connected disability and  
26 was discharged under honorable conditions; or

1           (5) the veteran served in active service for a total  
2           consecutive or non-consecutive period of at least 3 years  
3           or 1,095 days.

4           (e) A person not eligible for a preference under  
5 subsection (c) or (d) is qualified for a preference of 3 points  
6 if the person has served in the armed forces of the United  
7 States, the Illinois National Guard, or any reserve component  
8 of the armed forces of the United States if the person: (1)  
9 served for at least 6 months and has been discharged under  
10 honorable conditions; (2) has been discharged on the ground of  
11 hardship; (3) was released from active duty because of a  
12 service connected disability; or (4) served a minimum of 4  
13 years in the Illinois National Guard or reserve component of  
14 the armed forces of the United States regardless of whether or  
15 not the person was mobilized to active duty. An active member  
16 of the National Guard or a reserve component of the armed  
17 forces of the United States is eligible for the preference if  
18 the member meets the service requirements of this subsection  
19 (e).

20           (f) The augmented ratings shall be used when determining  
21 the rank order of persons to be appointed.

22           (g) Employees in positions covered by jurisdiction B who,  
23 while in good standing, leave to engage in military service  
24 during a period of hostility, shall be given credit for  
25 seniority purposes for time served in the armed forces.

26           (h) A surviving unremarried spouse of a veteran who

1 suffered a service connected death or the spouse of a veteran  
2 who suffered a service connected disability that prevents the  
3 veteran from qualifying for civil service employment shall be  
4 entitled to the same preference to which the veteran would  
5 have been entitled under this Section.

6 (i) A preference shall also be given to the following  
7 individuals: 10 points for one parent of an unmarried veteran  
8 who suffered a service connected death or a service connected  
9 disability that prevents the veteran from qualifying for civil  
10 service employment. The first parent to receive a civil  
11 service appointment shall be the parent entitled to the  
12 preference.

13 (j) The Department of Central Management Services shall  
14 adopt rules and implement procedures to verify that any person  
15 seeking a preference under this Section is entitled to the  
16 preference. A person seeking a preference under this Section  
17 shall provide documentation or execute any consents or other  
18 documents required by the Department of Central Management  
19 Services or any other State department or agency to enable the  
20 department or agency to verify that the person is entitled to  
21 the preference.

22 (k) If an applicant claims to be a veteran, the Department  
23 of Central Management Services must verify that status before  
24 granting a veteran preference by requiring a certified copy of  
25 the applicant's most recent DD214 (Certificate of Release or  
26 Discharge from Active Duty), NGB-22 (Proof of National Guard

1 Service), or other evidence of the applicant's most recent  
2 honorable discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States  
3 that is determined to be acceptable by the Department of  
4 Central Management Services.

5 (Source: P.A. 103-108, eff. 6-27-23; 103-746, eff. 1-1-25.)