

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 Department of Veterans Affairs Act is
5 amended by changing Section 4 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/4) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 69)

7 Sec. 4. A service officer shall be assigned to each field
8 office. All service officers and any supervisors, including
9 the field manager, within the field division must be currently
10 serving reservists or national guardsmen in good standing or
11 an honorably discharged veterans ~~veteran~~ from service in the
12 Armed Forces of the United States, active or reserve
13 components. ~~They must have served during a time of hostilities~~
14 ~~with a foreign country, and must meet one or more of the~~
15 ~~following conditions:~~

16 ~~(i) The veteran served a total of at least 6 months.~~

17 ~~(ii) The veteran served for the duration of~~
18 ~~hostilities regardless of the length of engagement.~~

19 ~~(iii) The veteran was discharged on the basis of~~
20 ~~hardship.~~

21 ~~(iv) The veteran was released from active duty because~~
22 ~~of a service-connected disability and was discharged under~~
23 ~~honorable conditions.~~

1 ~~As used in this Section, "time of hostilities with a~~
2 ~~foreign country" means any period of time in the past,~~
3 ~~present, or future during which a declaration of war by the~~
4 ~~United States Congress has been or is in effect or during which~~
5 ~~an emergency condition has been or is in effect that is~~
6 ~~recognized by the issuance of a Presidential proclamation or a~~
7 ~~Presidential executive order and in which the armed forces~~
8 ~~expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are~~
9 ~~awarded according to Presidential executive order.~~

10 (Source: P.A. 102-467, eff. 1-1-22.)