

1 AN ACT relating to state benefits for veterans.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 40.010 is amended to read as follows:

4 As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following respective meanings,
5 unless another meaning is clearly required by the context:

6 (1) "Administrator" means the adjutant general of the Commonwealth;

7 (2) "Veteran" means a person who:

8 **(a)** Served in the active Armed Forces of the United States, during the Spanish
9 American War, World War I, World War II, or the Korean conflict, for a
10 period of ninety (90) days or more (exclusive of time spent AWOL; or in
11 penal confinement as a result of a sentence imposed by court-martial; or in
12 service for which no allowance is made according to KRS 40.040), with some
13 portion of service within the respective hereinafter prescribed dates; **and**;
14 ~~who~~]

15 **(b) 1. Is** ~~is~~ still in the Armed Forces;

16 **2. Was** ~~or was~~ released, separated, discharged, or retired therefrom under
17 honorable conditions; **or**

18 **3. Was released, separated, discharged, or retired therefrom under**
19 **conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:**

20 **a. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran, as defined in this section; or**

21 **b. Has a qualifying condition, as defined in this section;**

22 (3) "Duty in active Armed Forces" includes active duty, and any period of inactive duty
23 training during which the individual concerned was disabled; and if a person in the
24 active Armed Forces was released, separated, or discharged therefrom by reason of
25 disability incurred in line of duty before serving as much as ninety (90) days, such
26 person shall be qualified for entitlement to a bonus payment under this chapter,
27 notwithstanding failure to remain in service for the minimum time otherwise

- 1 prescribed;
- 2 (4) "Armed Forces" means the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force,
3 and Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof on active duty;
- 4 (5) "Qualified veteran" means a person answering to the specifications set forth in
5 subsections (2) and (3), and who
- 6 (a) Was a resident of the Commonwealth at the time of entry into active service in
7 the Armed Forces and for at least six (6) months prior thereto; and
- 8 (b) Who has not received a bonus or like compensation from another state; and
- 9 (c) Who is not subject to the forfeiture provisions of this chapter;
- 10 (6) "Resident of the Commonwealth at the time of entry into the active service" means
11 any person who gave the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or any specific place in this
12 Commonwealth, as his or her place of residence at such time of entry, without
13 regard to the place of enlistment, commission, or induction. Conclusive and
14 exclusive evidence of such giving of place of residence shall be the official records
15 on file in the Department of Defense of the United States, or any official record
16 thereof in the files of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; but if it be
17 shown to the satisfaction of the administrator that for any reason no such record was
18 made, or that the same has been lost, misplaced, or destroyed, or that an
19 authenticated copy thereof cannot be obtained within a reasonable time, other
20 evidence of bona fide residence may be accepted if deemed sufficient by the
21 administrator;
- 22 (7) "Resident," in any context other than as in subsection (6), means a legal resident as
23 determined by generally established principles of law, as may be defined, and
24 subject to proof, according to such regulations as the administrator may promulgate;
- 25 (8) "Beneficiary" means, in this order, widow, child or children (sharing equally),
26 mother, father, and no other;
- 27 (9) (a) "Widow" means a woman who was the wife of a veteran at the time of his

1 death, and who had not deserted him (except where there was a separation
2 which was due to the misconduct of, or procured by, the veteran without the
3 fault of the wife), and who had not remarried, (unless the purported
4 remarriage was void or had been annulled);

5 (b) The term "widow" also includes "widower" in the case of a man who was the
6 husband of a female veteran at the time of her death;

7 (10) "Child" means a person:

8 (a) Who is under the age of eighteen (18); or

9 (b) Who, before attaining the age of eighteen (18) years, became permanently
10 incapable of self-support; or

11 (c) Who, after attaining the age of eighteen (18) years and until completion of
12 education or training (but not after attaining the age of twenty-one (21) years)
13 is pursuing a course of instruction at a bona fide educational institution; and
14 who, in relationship to the veteran, is a child born in lawful wedlock; a legally
15 adopted child; a stepchild who is a member of a veteran's household or was a
16 member at the time of the veteran's death; or a child born out of wedlock, but,
17 as to the alleged father, only if acknowledged in writing signed by him, or if
18 he had, before his death, been judicially decreed to be the father of such child;

19 (11) "Mother" means a mother, a mother through adoption, or a woman who for a period
20 of not less than one (1) year stood in the relationship of a mother to a qualified
21 veteran before his or her entry into active service in the Armed Forces, or if two (2)
22 persons stood in such relationship for one (1) year or more, the person who last
23 stood in such relationship before the veteran's last entry into active service in the
24 Armed Forces;

25 (12) "Father" means a father, a father through adoption, or a man who for a period of not
26 less than one (1) year stood in the relationship of a father to a qualified veteran
27 before his or her entry into active service in the Armed Forces, or if two (2) persons

- 1 stood in such relationship for one (1) year or more, the person who last stood in
2 such relationship before the veteran's last entry into active service in the Armed
3 Forces;
- 4 (13) "In the continental United States" means any place in the District of Columbia and
5 the states of the United States which are on the North American continent,
6 exclusive of Alaska;
- 7 (14) "Outside the continental United States" means any place elsewhere than as defined
8 in subsection (13);
- 9 (15) "Spanish-American War":
- 10 (a) Means the period beginning on April 21, 1898, and ending on July 4, 1902;
- 11 (b) Includes the Philippine Insurrection and the Boxer Rebellion; and
- 12 (c) In the case of a veteran who served with the United States military forces
13 engaged in hostilities in the Moro Province, means the period beginning on
14 April 21, 1898, and ending on July 15, 1903;
- 15 (16) "World War I":
- 16 (a) Means the period beginning on April 6, 1917, and ending on November 11,
17 1918; and
- 18 (b) In the case of a veteran who served with the United States military forces in
19 Russia, means the period beginning on April 6, 1917, and ending on April 1,
20 1920; and
- 21 (c) Any service between April 6, 1917, and July 1, 1921, if some part thereof was
22 between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, both dates being inclusive;
- 23 (17) "World War II" means the period beginning December 7, 1941, and ending
24 December 31, 1946;
- 25 (18) "Korean conflict" means the period beginning on June 27, 1950, and ending January
26 31, 1955;
- 27 (19) "Bonus" and "veterans' bonus" means the compensation authorized by this chapter;

1 (20) "Bonus claim" means a claim or potential claim for a veterans' bonus;

2 (21) "Claimant" means one who seeks to obtain payment of a bonus claim;[-]

3 **(22) "Discharged LGBTQ veteran" means a person who:**

4 **(a) Served in the active Armed Forces of the United States, during the Spanish**
 5 **American War, World War I, World War II, or the Korean conflict, for a**
 6 **period of ninety (90) days or more (exclusive of time spent AWOL; or in**
 7 **penal confinement as a result of a sentence imposed by court-martial; or in**
 8 **service for which no allowance is made according to KRS 40.040), with**
 9 **some portion of service within the respective hereinafter prescribed dates;**
 10 **and**

11 **(b) Was discharged less than honorably from military or naval service due to**
 12 **his or her actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity or**
 13 **expression, or statements, consensual sexual conduct, or consensual acts**
 14 **relating to sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or the**
 15 **disclosure of such statements, conduct, or acts, that were prohibited by the**
 16 **military or naval service at the time of discharge; and**

17 **(23) "Qualifying condition" means a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder or**
 18 **traumatic brain injury made by, or an experience of military sexual trauma**
 19 **disclosed to, an individual licensed to provide healthcare services at a United**
 20 **States Department of Veterans Affairs facility.**

21 ➔Section 2. KRS 40.310 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall collect all necessary data and information
 23 regarding facilities and services available to veterans, their families, and
 24 dependents, and shall cooperate with all information or service agencies throughout
 25 the state in informing such persons regarding the existence or availability of all
 26 educational, training, and retraining facilities; health, medical, rehabilitation, and
 27 housing services and facilities; employment and reemployment services; provisions

1 of federal, state, and local laws affording rights, privileges, and benefits to said
2 persons, their families, and dependents, and all other matters of similar related or
3 appropriate nature. It shall likewise be the duty of the department to assist veterans
4 and their families and dependents in the presentation, proof, and establishment of
5 all claims, privileges, rights, and other benefits which they may have under federal,
6 state, or local laws, and to cooperate with all national, state, and local government
7 and private agencies securing services or any benefits to veterans, their families, and
8 dependents.

9 (2) The commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall prepare and submit
10 to the Governor and each member of the board an annual report with reference to
11 claims presented on behalf of veterans and to otherwise report the activities and
12 accomplishments of the department.

13 (3) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall be authorized to apply for and accept
14 gifts, grants, and other contributions from the federal government, or from any other
15 governmental unit which funds shall be administered by the department through use
16 of trust and agency accounts.

17 (4) Veterans, as used in KRS 40.305 to 40.310, include any individual who served on
18 active duty during peace or war in the Armed Forces of the United States, and who:
19 ~~has~~

20 (a) Received~~received~~ an honorable discharge from such service; or

21 (b) Received a discharge other than a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge,

22 and:

23 1. Has a qualifying condition; or

24 2. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran.

25 (5) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall maintain full, adequate, and complete
26 copies of all records pertaining to claims of veterans who file said claims for
27 benefits through the department.

1 (6) The commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs may purchase liability
2 insurance for the protection of employees of the Department of Veterans' Affairs to
3 protect them from liability for acts, omissions, and claims arising in the course and
4 scope of their employment or service to the department.

5 (7) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall manage the veterans' program trust fund
6 established by KRS 40.460 by hosting all board meetings, providing logistical
7 support, recording the minutes of each meeting, and authorizing expenditures once
8 the board has approved a request for funds.

9 **(8) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall promulgate administrative regulations**
10 **to establish a consistent and uniform process to determine whether a veteran**
11 **qualifies as a discharged LGBTQ veteran, including, at a minimum, standards**
12 **for verifying a veteran's status as a discharged LGBTQ veteran and a method of**
13 **demonstrating eligibility as a discharged LGBTQ veteran, and shall develop a**
14 **standardized form used to confirm that a veteran has a qualifying condition.**

15 ➔Section 3. KRS 12.245 is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) An administrative body that issues a license, permit, certificate, or other document
17 required to operate within a business, profession, or other occupation in the
18 Commonwealth shall issue within thirty (30) days of receipt of a completed
19 application a license, permit, certificate, or other document to a member of the
20 United States military, Reserves, or National Guard, or to his or her spouse, or to a
21 veteran or the spouse of a veteran, who is seeking a license, permit, certificate, or
22 other document and currently holds or recently held equivalent documentation
23 issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or any possession or territory of
24 the United States unless:

25 (a) The license, permit, certificate, or other document issued by another state, the
26 District of Columbia, or any possession or territory of the United States has
27 been expired for more than two (2) years;

- 1 (b) The license, permit, certificate, or other documentation is not in good
2 standing;
- 3 (c) The holder of the license, permit, certificate, or other document has had the
4 license, permit, certificate, or other document suspended for disciplinary
5 reasons; or
- 6 (d) The board can show substantive evidence of significant statutory deficiency in
7 the training, education, or experience of the United States military service
8 member, Reserves or National Guard member, veteran, or spouse, which
9 could cause a health or safety risk to the public.
- 10 (2) The United States military service member, Reserves or National Guard member,
11 veteran, or spouse shall submit:
- 12 (a) Proof of issuance of a valid license, permit, certificate, or other document
13 issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or any possession or territory
14 of the United States that is active or has been expired for less than two (2)
15 years;
- 16 (b) Proof that the valid license, permit, certificate, or other document issued by
17 another state, the District of Columbia, or any possession or territory of the
18 United States is in good standing or was upon the date of expiration; and
- 19 (c) His or her DD-214 form or other proof of active or prior military service with:
- 20 1. An honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or a
21 general discharge under honorable conditions; or
- 22 2. *A discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, if the individual*
23 *also submits:*
- 24 a. *Evidence of a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this*
25 *Act; or*
- 26 b. *Evidence of status as a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in*
27 *Section 1 of this Act.*

1 (3) A United States military service member, Reserves or National Guard member,
 2 veteran, or spouse who holds a license, permit, certificate, or other document issued
 3 by another state, the District of Columbia, or any possession or territory of the
 4 United States who applies for a license, permit, certificate, or other document
 5 pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and is denied shall have the right to appeal
 6 the decision in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.

7 ➔Section 4. KRS 12.354 is amended to read as follows:

- 8 (1) As used in this section, "administrative body" has the same meaning as in KRS
 9 12.010.
- 10 (2) Each administrative body that issues a license, permit, certificate, or other document
 11 that is required to operate within any business, profession, or occupation in the
 12 Commonwealth may issue a license, permit, certificate, or other document, or a
 13 temporary license, permit, certificate, or other document to a United States military
 14 service member or veteran who is seeking a license, permit, certificate, or other
 15 document under this section and has:
- 16 (a) Separated from the military **within two (2) years preceding the date of**
 17 **applying for the license, permit, certificate, or other document,** with:
- 18 **1.** An honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or a
 19 general discharge under honorable conditions~~[within two (2) years~~
 20 ~~preceding the date of applying for the license, permit, certificate, or~~
 21 ~~other document]; **or**~~
- 22 **2. A discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:**
- 23 **a. A qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act; or**
- 24 **b. Status as a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of**
 25 **this Act;**
- 26 (b) Received training, education, or experience during active, National Guard, or
 27 federal reserve military service to the extent that such training, education, or

1 experience satisfies the requirements established by law and administrative
2 regulations of the respective board for the issuance of any license, permit,
3 certificate, or other document, however styled or denominated, required for
4 the practice of any business, profession, or occupation in the Commonwealth;
5 and

6 (c) Submitted his or her DD 214 form or other proof of satisfactory completion of
7 military training to the administrative body as part of the license or certificate
8 application.

9 (3) Nothing in subsection (2) of this section shall require an administrative body to
10 issue a license, permit, certificate, or other document if the administrative body
11 determines that the military training or experience does not meet the requirements
12 established by the administrative body for the issuance of a license, permit,
13 certificate, or other document to operate within a business, profession, or
14 occupation in the Commonwealth.

15 (4) Administrative bodies that receive multiple requests under this section are directed
16 to publish clear guidelines to clarify requirements. These guidelines may be
17 published electronically, in print, or by the promulgation of administrative
18 regulations.

19 (5) Military training and experience submitted under subsection (2) of this section shall
20 not be used as a substitute or in lieu of:

21 (a) A postsecondary school degree when a degree is a prerequisite for a license,
22 permit, certificate, or other document; or

23 (b) A specified examination when passage of an examination is a prerequisite for
24 a license, permit, certificate, or other document.

25 ➔Section 5. KRS 14A.1-070 is amended to read as follows:

26 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

27 (1) "Business" includes every trade, occupation, and profession;

- 1 (2) "Business trust" means a business trust governed as to its internal affairs by KRS
2 Chapter 386 or a statutory trust governed as to its internal affairs by KRS Chapter
3 386A;
- 4 (3) "Corporation" means a business corporation governed as to its internal affairs by
5 KRS Chapter 271B, a cooperative or association governed as to its internal affairs
6 by KRS Chapter 272, a nonprofit corporation governed as to its internal affairs by
7 KRS Chapter 273, and a rural electric or rural telephone cooperative corporation
8 governed as to its internal affairs by KRS Chapter 279;
- 9 (4) "Debtor in bankruptcy" means a person who is the subject of:
- 10 (a) An order for relief under Title 11 of the United States Code or a comparable
11 order under a successor statute of general application; or
- 12 (b) A comparable order under federal, state, or foreign law governing insolvency;
- 13 (5) "Deliver" or "delivery" means any method of delivery used in conventional
14 commercial practice, including delivery by hand, mail, commercial delivery, and
15 electronic transmission;
- 16 (6) "Electronic transmission" or "electronically transmitted" means any process of
17 communication not directly involving the physical transfer of paper that is suitable
18 for the retention, retrieval, and reproduction of information by the recipient;
- 19 (7) "Entity" means a corporation, business or statutory trust, partnership, limited
20 partnership, limited liability company, limited cooperative association, or
21 unincorporated nonprofit association, governed as to its internal affairs by the laws
22 of the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 23 (8) "Foreign business trust" means a business or statutory trust not governed as to its
24 internal affairs by KRS Chapter 386 or 386A;
- 25 (9) "Foreign corporation" means a corporation as defined in subsection (2) of this
26 section that is not:
- 27 (a) Organized pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; or

- 1 (b) As to its internal affairs, governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of
2 Kentucky;
- 3 (10) "Foreign entity" means a corporation, not-for-profit corporation, cooperative,
4 limited cooperative association, association, business or statutory trust, partnership,
5 limited partnership, limited liability company, or unincorporated nonprofit
6 association not:
- 7 (a) Organized pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; or
8 (b) As to its internal affairs, governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of
9 Kentucky;
- 10 (11) "Foreign limited cooperative association" means a limited cooperative association
11 that is not:
- 12 (a) Organized pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; or
13 (b) As to its internal affairs, governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of
14 Kentucky;
- 15 (12) "Foreign limited liability partnership" means a partnership that:
- 16 (a) Is formed under laws other than the laws of this Commonwealth; and
17 (b) Has the status of a limited liability partnership under those laws;
- 18 (13) "Foreign professional service corporation" has the same meaning as in KRS
19 274.005;
- 20 (14) "Foreign rural electric cooperative" means a rural electric cooperative organized
21 otherwise than under KRS 279.010 to 279.210;
- 22 (15) "Foreign rural telephone cooperative" means a rural telephone cooperative
23 organized otherwise than under KRS 279.310 to 279.990 excepting 279.570;
- 24 (16) "Foreign unincorporated nonprofit association" means an unincorporated nonprofit
25 association that is not:
- 26 (a) Organized in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; or
27 (b) As to its internal affairs, governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of

1 Kentucky;

2 (17) "Good standing" means that all annual reports which are required to be received
3 from an entity or foreign entity have been delivered to and filed by the Secretary of
4 State, that all other lawfully required statutory documentation has been received and
5 filed, and that all fees, costs, and expenses, including penalties incurred in
6 connection therewith, have been paid;

7 (18) "Limited cooperative association" means a limited cooperative association governed
8 as to its internal affairs by KRS Chapter 272A;

9 (19) "Limited liability company" has the same meaning as in KRS 275.015;

10 (20) "Limited liability partnership" means a partnership that has filed a statement of
11 qualification under KRS 362.1-931 or a registration as a registered limited liability
12 partnership under KRS 362.555 and does not have a similar statement or
13 registration in effect in any other jurisdiction;

14 (21) "Name of record with the Secretary of State" means any real, fictitious, reserved,
15 registered, or assumed name of an entity or foreign entity;

16 (22) "Nonprofit corporation," other than in the term "foreign nonprofit corporation,"
17 means a nonprofit corporation incorporated pursuant to and governed as to its
18 internal affairs by KRS Chapter 273 or predecessor law;

19 (23) "Organic act" means the law of a state or other jurisdiction governing the
20 organization and internal affairs of an entity or foreign entity;

21 (24) "Organized" means organized, incorporated, or formed;

22 (25) "Organizational filing" means a filing made with the Secretary of State as a
23 precondition to the formation, organization, or incorporation of an entity, including
24 articles of incorporation, articles of organization, articles of association, certificates
25 of trust, and certificates of limited partnership. A statement of qualification filed
26 pursuant to KRS 362.1-931 or a registration as a limited liability partnership filed
27 pursuant to KRS 362.555 is not an organizational filing;

- 1 (26) "Partnership" means an association of two (2) or more persons to carry on as co-
2 owners a business for profit formed under KRS 362.1-202, predecessor law, or
3 comparable law of another jurisdiction;
- 4 (27) "Partnership agreement" means the agreement, whether written, oral, or implied,
5 among the partners concerning the partnership, including amendments to the
6 partnership agreement;
- 7 (28) "Person" means an individual, an entity, a foreign entity, or any other legal or
8 commercial entity;
- 9 (29) "Principal office" means the address required by this chapter or the organic act to be
10 of record with the Secretary of State as the principal office, the principal place of
11 business address, the designated office of a limited partnership, or the chief
12 executive office of a limited liability partnership;
- 13 (30) "Professional service corporation" has the same meaning as in KRS 274.005;
- 14 (31) "Professional services" means the personal services rendered by physicians,
15 osteopaths, optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists,
16 psychologists, occupational therapists, veterinarians, engineers, architects,
17 landscape architects, certified public accountants, public accountants, physical
18 therapists, and attorneys;
- 19 (32) "Property" means all property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, or
20 any interest therein;
- 21 (33) "Qualified person" has the same meaning as in KRS 274.005;
- 22 (34) "Registered agent" means a registered agent appointed in accordance with KRS
23 14A.4-010 or predecessor law, and is synonymous with agent for service of process;
- 24 (35) "Registered office" means the registered office identified in accordance with and
25 satisfying the requirements of KRS 14A.4-010(1)(b). The registered office address
26 must be a street address;
- 27 (36) "Regulatory board" means the agency that is charged by law with the licensing and

- 1 regulation of the practice of the profession which the entity is organized to provide;
- 2 (37) "Rural electric cooperative" means a rural electric cooperative governed as to its
3 internal affairs by KRS 279.010 to 279.210;
- 4 (38) "Rural telephone cooperative" means a rural telephone cooperative governed as to
5 its internal affairs by KRS 279.310 to 279.990 excepting KRS 279.570;
- 6 (39) "Series entity" means an entity or a foreign entity authorized and enabled by its
7 organic act and organizational filing to create series having separate rights, powers,
8 or duties with respect to specific property or obligations of the series entity, or the
9 profits and losses associated with specific property or obligations;
- 10 (40) "Sign" or "signature" includes any manual, facsimile, conformed, or electronic
11 signature;
- 12 (41) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the
13 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any territory or insular possession subject to the
14 jurisdiction of the United States;
- 15 (42) "Statutory trust" means a trust governed as to its internal affairs by KRS Chapter
16 386A;
- 17 (43) "Unincorporated nonprofit association" means an unincorporated nonprofit
18 association governed as to its internal affairs by KRS Chapter 273A;
- 19 (44) "Veteran" means:
- 20 (a) Any~~any~~ person who served in the United States Armed Forces, Reserves, or
21 National Guard and was separated or released therefrom with:
- 22 1. An~~an~~ honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or
23 general discharge under honorable conditions; or
- 24 2. A discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:
- 25 a. Has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act; or
- 26 b. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of this
27 Act; or

1 **(b)** ~~Any~~ person who currently serves in the United States Armed Forces,
2 Reserves, or National Guard; and

3 (45) "Veteran-owned business" means a business:

4 (a) That is at least fifty-one percent (51%) unconditionally owned by one (1) or
5 more veterans;

6 (b) In the case of a publicly owned business, in which at least fifty-one percent
7 (51%) of the stock is unconditionally owned by one (1) or more veterans; or

8 (c) That is a nonprofit business which is at least fifty-one percent (51%)
9 unconditionally managed by one (1) or more veterans.

10 ➔Section 6. KRS 16.040 is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) The department shall consist of the commissioner and the number of officers,
12 individuals employed as a Trooper R Class, CVE R Class, and civilians, and shall
13 be organized in the manner as the commissioner from time to time determines.

14 (2) All persons appointed as officers shall at the time of their appointment:

15 (a) Be not less than twenty-one (21) years of age;

16 (b) Be of good moral character, and in good health;

17 (c) Be citizens of the United States and residents of the Commonwealth; and

18 (d) Possess;

19 1. A minimum of sixty (60) hours of credit, or an associate degree, from an
20 accredited college or university;

21 2. A high school diploma with at least two (2) years' experience in the
22 military or in law enforcement; or

23 3. A high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED)
24 diploma with additional experience established by the commissioner by
25 administrative regulation promulgated pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A.

26 However, any person appointed under this subparagraph who has not
27 completed the requirements of subparagraph 1. of this paragraph prior to

1 the end of probation as described in KRS 16.140(11) shall be
2 discharged.

3 (3) The commissioner shall prescribe minimum physical requirements for appointment
4 as an officer of the department and for individuals employed as a Trooper R Class
5 or CVE R Class, and shall conduct such tests and require such physical
6 examinations as deemed necessary to determine the fitness and qualification of each
7 applicant. All other qualifications being equal, preference shall be given to veterans
8 of the Armed Forces of the United States in time of war, who:

- 9 1. Were honorably discharged; or
- 10 2. Have a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:
 - 11 a. Have a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act;
 - 12 or
 - 13 b. Are discharged LGBTQ veterans as defined in Section 1 of this
 - 14 Act.

15 (4) The commissioner shall direct an investigation to be conducted in order to
16 determine an applicant's suitability for employment as an officer. The contents of
17 the investigation shall be subject to the Open Records Act, KRS 61.870 to 61.884
18 and KRS 61.991, except that the identity of any witness or informant involving
19 information relative to this investigation shall remain confidential. The identity of
20 any witness or informant shall be subject to the subpoena power of a court of
21 competent jurisdiction.

22 ➔Section 7. KRS 40.650 is amended to read as follows:

- 23 (1) As used in this section:
 - 24 (a) "Department" means the Department of Veterans' Affairs; and
 - 25 (b) "Veteran" means a person who served in the active Armed Forces of the
26 United States, including the Coast Guard of the United States, and was
27 released, separated, discharged, or retired therefrom;

- 1 **1.** Under honorable or general conditions; **or**
- 2 **2.** **Under conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:**
- 3 **a.** **Has a qualifying condition; or**
- 4 **b.** **Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran.**

5 (2) A veterans' personal loan program trust fund is established to oversee and
6 administer funds under the Veterans' Personal Loan Program.

7 (3) (a) To be eligible for a loan under the Veterans' Personal Loan Program, an
8 applicant shall be a resident of, and living in, the Commonwealth on the date
9 of the application.

10 (b) 1. As used in this paragraph, "qualified" means having met loan conditions
11 established by an administrative regulation promulgated by the
12 department. However, the term of a loan shall not exceed ten (10) years.

13 2. The department shall cause the veterans' personal loan program trust
14 fund to lend a qualified veteran or deceased veteran's unremarried
15 spouse not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or a lesser amount
16 established by an administrative regulation promulgated by the
17 department, for:

- 18 a. The purchase of a home, business, or business property;
- 19 b. The education of the loan applicant or the loan applicant's spouse;
- 20 c. The payment of family medical or funeral expenses; or
- 21 d. The consolidation of debt.

22 3. The department shall cause the veterans' personal loan trust fund to lend
23 a qualified child of a veteran or parent or guardian of that child not more
24 than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or a lesser amount established by an
25 administrative regulation promulgated by the department, for the
26 education of that child, who is under the age of twenty-seven (27), at a
27 university, junior college, vocational training institute, or nonpublic

1 school admitting children in preschool through grade twelve (12).

2 (c) No person shall receive a loan under this section in an amount that, when
3 added to the balance of the person's existing loan or loans under this section,
4 would result in a total indebtedness to the veterans' personal loan program
5 trust fund of more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or a lesser amount
6 established by an administrative regulation promulgated by the department.

7 (4) (a) The veterans' personal loan program trust fund shall:

- 8 1. Execute necessary instruments; and
- 9 2. Collect principal and interest.

10 (b) The veterans' personal loan program trust fund may:

- 11 1. Compromise indebtedness;
- 12 2. Sue and be sued;
- 13 3. Post bonds;
- 14 4. Write off indebtedness that it considers uncollectible;
- 15 5. Exercise the rights of an owner and mortgagee if a loan provided under
16 this section is secured by a real estate mortgage;
- 17 6. Charge to a loan applicant loan expenses incurred under this section; and
- 18 7. a. Receive state appropriations, gifts, grants, federal funds, and any
19 other funds both public and private.
20 b. Funds received, which are not necessary for the operation of the
21 veterans' personal loan program trust fund, shall remain with the
22 department to finance other department operations.

23 (5) The department shall promulgate administrative regulations necessary to carry out
24 the provisions of this section.

25 ➔Section 8. KRS 42.0146 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) For purposes of this section:

27 (a) "Disabled veteran" means an individual, domiciled in Kentucky, who has

1 served on active duty in the Armed Forces, has been separated therefrom;

2 **1. Under**~~under~~ honorable or general conditions; **or**~~,~~

3 **2. Under conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:**

4 **a. Has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act; or**

5 **b. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of this**
6 **Act;** and

7 has established the present existence of a service-connected disability or is
8 receiving compensation, disability retirements benefits, or pension because of
9 a public statute administered by the United States Department of Veterans
10 Affairs or Department of Defense, or was terminated from active duty by the
11 Department of Defense because of a disability; and

12 (b) "Disabled veteran-owned business" means a business:

- 13 1. Where a disabled veteran has at least fifty-one percent (51%) ownership;
- 14 2. That is independently owned and operated;
- 15 3. That does not exceed the applicable size standards for its industry, as
16 determined by the United States Small Business Administration;
- 17 4. That has been owned and operated by the disabled veteran for at least a
18 full calendar or fiscal year; and
- 19 5. For which the disabled veteran has filed a business tax return consisting
20 of a full calendar or fiscal year.

21 (2) The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Contract Compliance shall
22 oversee a program that provides certification of a disabled veteran-owned business
23 in order to encourage growth among businesses owned by disabled veterans within
24 the state and assist those businesses in competing for work in other states that
25 require certification by a statewide body. This certification does not provide a
26 preference in state procurement, nor does it create a point system or set aside for
27 disabled veteran-owned businesses.

1 (3) In order to apply for certification, a disabled veteran shall provide proof of his or
 2 her disability. Proof shall be in the form of Department of Defense Form DD 214,
 3 United States Department of Veterans Affairs disability letter, or other United
 4 States Department of Veterans Affairs documentation establishing a service-
 5 connected disability.

6 (4) The Finance and Administration Cabinet shall promulgate any administrative
 7 regulations necessary to create and manage the disabled veteran-owned business
 8 certification program, which may include but is not limited to additional
 9 certification requirements, the application process, onsite visitation by the Office of
 10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Contract Compliance, and recertification.

11 ➔Section 9. KRS 148.0211 is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) Any veteran who:~~[-]~~

13 (a) Has been a prisoner of war;~~[-]~~

14 (b) 1. Was~~was~~ honorably discharged from the military forces; ~~or~~[-]

15 2. Was discharged under conditions other than bad conduct or
 16 dishonorable, and:

17 a. Has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act; or

18 b. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of this
 19 Act; and

20 (c) Is a resident of this state;

21 is exempt from camping fees in parks or campgrounds owned or operated by the
 22 Commonwealth of Kentucky.

23 (2) To claim the exemption provided for by subsection (1) of this section, a veteran
 24 shall forward:

25 (a) A copy of his separation form from military service; or

26 (b) A letter from one (1) of the military forces or the United States Department of
 27 Veterans Affairs; and

1 (c) Written proof of residence to the Department of Parks. The department shall
2 mail a card to the veteran certifying that he is exempt from the fees specified
3 in subsection (1) of this section.

4 ➔Section 10. KRS 158.105 is amended to read as follows:

5 Each school district in this state shall admit to its twelve (12) grade school service,
6 without tuition, any veteran of the Armed Forces whose attendance was interrupted,
7 before completing the approved twelve (12) grade school course, because of induction or
8 enlistment in the Armed Forces. The veteran shall apply for reenrollment in the public
9 school system of the district of his residence not later than four (4) years after his or her
10 honorable discharge from the Armed Forces, separation from service with a qualifying
11 condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act with other than a bad conduct or
12 dishonorable discharge, or separation from service as a discharged LGBTQ veteran as
13 defined in Section 1 of this Act with other than a bad conduct or dishonorable
14 discharge. However, this is not intended to apply to enrollment by veterans in special
15 courses for which tuition is paid under the provisions of federal laws, or otherwise.

16 ➔Section 11. KRS 158.140 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) When a pupil in any public elementary school or any approved private or parochial
18 school completes the prescribed elementary program of studies, he or she is entitled
19 to a certificate of completion signed by the teacher or teachers under whom the
20 program was completed. The certificate shall entitle the pupil to admission into any
21 public high school. Any promotions or credits earned in attendance in any approved
22 public school are valid in any other public school to which a pupil may go, but the
23 superintendent or principal of a school, as the case may be, may assign the pupil to
24 the class or grade to which the pupil is best suited. In case a pupil transfers from the
25 school of one (1) district to the school of another district, an assignment to a lower
26 grade or course shall not be made until the pupil has demonstrated that he or she is
27 not suited for the work in the grade or course to which he or she has been promoted.

- 1 (2) Upon successful completion of all state and local board requirements, the student
2 shall receive:
- 3 (a) A diploma indicating graduation from high school; or
4 (b) An alternative high school diploma if the student has a disability and has
5 completed a modified curriculum and an individualized course of study
6 pursuant to requirements established by the Kentucky Board of Education in
7 accordance with KRS 156.160.
- 8 (3) (a) The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky, located at
9 Western Kentucky University, and the Craft Academy for Excellence in
10 Science and Mathematics, located at Morehead State University, may award a
11 diploma to any student who completes his or her high school program at the
12 respective academy. If the academy issues a diploma, the board of regents of
13 the host university shall provide to the commissioner of education a letter of
14 assurance that the program of study completed by its students, in combination
15 with previously earned secondary credits, meets the minimum high school
16 graduation requirements established by the Kentucky Board of Education
17 under KRS 156.160(1)(d).
- 18 (b) A local school district may award a joint diploma with the Gatton Academy of
19 Mathematics and Science in Kentucky or the Craft Academy for Excellence in
20 Science and Mathematics to any student who was enrolled in a district high
21 school and completed his or her high school program at the respective
22 academy.
- 23 (c) The respective academy and the home school district shall ensure that student
24 transcripts from each institution accurately reflect the dual credit coursework.
- 25 (4) A local school board may award a diploma indicating graduation from high school
26 to any student posthumously with the high school class the student was expected to
27 graduate.

- 1 (5) (a) A local board of education shall award an authentic high school diploma to an
2 honorably discharged veteran, a veteran with a qualifying condition as
3 defined in Section 1 of this Act with other than a bad conduct or
4 dishonorable discharge, or a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in
5 Section 1 of this Act with other than a bad conduct or dishonorable
6 discharge, who did not complete high school prior to being inducted into the
7 United States Armed Forces during:
- 8 1. World War II, as defined in KRS 40.010;
 - 9 2. The Korean conflict, as defined in KRS 40.010; or
 - 10 3. The Vietnam War. As used in this paragraph, "Vietnam War" means the
11 period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975. However,
12 for a member of the United States Armed Forces serving in Vietnam
13 prior to August 5, 1964, the period shall begin February 28, 1961.
- 14 (b) Upon recommendation of the commissioner, the Kentucky Board of
15 Education in consultation with the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs
16 shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish the guidelines for
17 awarding the authentic diplomas referred to in paragraph (a) of this
18 subsection.
- 19 (6) Any high school graduation requirements adopted by a local board shall not include
20 achieving a minimum score on a statewide assessment administered under KRS
21 158.6453.
- 22 (7) The Department of Education shall establish the requirements for a vocational
23 certificate of completion. A student who has returned to school after dropping out
24 shall receive counseling concerning the vocational program. A student who has
25 completed the requirements established for a vocational program shall receive a
26 vocational certificate of completion specifying the areas of competence.
- 27 ➔Section 12. KRS 161.048 is amended to read as follows:

- 1 (1) The General Assembly hereby finds that:
- 2 (a) 1. There are persons who have distinguished themselves through a variety
- 3 of work and educational experiences that could enrich teaching in
- 4 Kentucky schools;
- 5 2. There are distinguished scholars who wish to become teachers in
- 6 Kentucky's public schools, but who did not pursue a teacher preparation
- 7 program;
- 8 3. There are persons who should be recruited to teach in Kentucky's public
- 9 schools as they have academic majors, strong verbal skills as shown by a
- 10 verbal ability test, and deep knowledge of content, characteristics that
- 11 empirical research identifies as important attributes of quality teachers;
- 12 4. There are persons who need to be recruited to teach in Kentucky schools
- 13 to meet the diverse cultural and educational needs of students; and
- 14 5. There should be alternative procedures to the traditional teacher
- 15 preparation programs that qualify persons as teachers;
- 16 (b) There are hereby established alternative certification program options as
- 17 described in subsections (2) to (9) of this section;
- 18 (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Education Professional
- 19 Standards Board inform scholars, persons with exceptional work experience,
- 20 and persons with diverse backgrounds who have potential as teachers of these
- 21 options and assist local boards of education in implementing these options and
- 22 recruitment of individuals who can enhance the education system in
- 23 Kentucky;
- 24 (d) The Education Professional Standards Board may reject the application of any
- 25 candidate who is judged as not meeting academic requirements comparable to
- 26 those for students enrolled in Kentucky teacher preparation programs; and
- 27 (e) The Education Professional Standards Board shall promulgate administrative

1 regulations establishing standards and procedures for the alternative
2 certification options described in this section.

3 (2) Option 1: Certification of a person with exceptional work experience. An individual
4 who has exceptional work experience and has been offered employment in a local
5 school district shall receive a one (1) year provisional certificate with approval by
6 the Education Professional Standards Board of a joint application by the individual
7 and the employing school district under the following conditions:

8 (a) The application contains documentation of all education and work experience;
9 (b) The candidate has documented exceptional work experience in the area in
10 which certification is being sought; and

11 (c) The candidate possesses:

- 12 1. A bachelor's degree or a graduate degree;
- 13 2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
14 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point
15 average of three (3.0) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30)
16 hours of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate
17 coursework from a nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary
18 institution; and
- 19 3. An academic major or a passing score on the academic content
20 assessment in the area in which certification is being sought by the
21 applicant as designated by the Education Professional Standards Board.

22 The candidate shall participate in the teacher internship program under KRS
23 161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate shall
24 receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate renewal
25 requirements the same as other teachers with a professional certificate.

26 (3) Option 2: Certification through a local school district training program. A local
27 school district or group of school districts may seek approval for a training program.

1 The state-approved local school district training program is an alternative to the
2 college teacher preparation program as a means of acquiring teacher certification for
3 a teacher at any grade level. The training program may be offered for all teaching
4 certificates approved by the Education Professional Standards Board, including
5 interdisciplinary early childhood education, except for specific certificates for
6 teachers of exceptional children. To participate in a state-approved local school
7 district alternative training program, the candidate shall possess:

- 8 (a) A bachelor's degree or a graduate degree;
- 9 (b) A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
10 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point average
11 of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours of credit
12 completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a
13 nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution;
- 14 (c) A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
15 certification is being sought by the applicant as designated by the Education
16 Professional Standards Board. To be eligible to take an academic content
17 assessment, the applicant shall have completed a thirty (30) hour major in the
18 academic content area or five (5) years of experience in the academic content
19 area as approved by the Education Professional Standards Board; and
- 20 (d) An offer of employment in a school district which has a training program
21 approved by the Education Professional Standards Board.

22 Upon meeting the participation requirements as established in this subsection, the
23 candidate shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate by the Education
24 Professional Standards Board. The candidate shall participate in the teacher
25 internship program under KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the
26 internship program, the candidate shall receive a professional certificate and shall
27 be subject to certificate renewal requirements the same as other teachers with a

1 professional certificate.

2 (4) Option 3: Certification of a professional from a postsecondary institution: A
3 candidate who possesses the following qualifications may receive a one (1) year
4 provisional certificate for teaching at any level:

5 (a) A master's degree or doctoral degree in the academic content area for which
6 certification is sought;

7 (b) A minimum of five (5) years of full-time teaching experience, or its
8 equivalent, in the academic content area for which certification is sought in a
9 regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education; and

10 (c) An offer of employment in a school district which has been approved by the
11 Education Professional Standards Board.

12 The candidate shall participate in the teacher internship program under KRS
13 161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate shall
14 receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate renewal
15 requirements the same as other teachers with professional certificates.

16 (5) Option 4: Certification of an adjunct instructor. A person who has expertise in areas
17 such as art, music, foreign language, drama, science, computer science, and other
18 specialty areas may be employed as an adjunct instructor in a part-time position by a
19 local board of education under KRS 161.046.

20 (6) Option 5: Certification of a veteran of the Armed Forces. The Education
21 Professional Standards Board shall issue a statement of eligibility, valid for five (5)
22 years, for teaching at the elementary, secondary, and secondary career technical
23 education levels to a veteran of the Armed Forces who was honorably discharged or
24 *discharged with other than a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, provided*
25 *that individuals with discharges that are not honorable have a qualifying*
26 *condition or are discharged LGBTQ veterans as defined in Section 1 of this Act,*
27 from active duty as evidenced by Defense Department Form 214 (DD 214) or

1 National Guard Bureau Form 22 or to a member of the Armed Services currently
2 serving with six (6) or more years of honorable service, including Reserves,
3 National Guard, or active duty. The candidate shall possess:

- 4 (a) A bachelor's degree or graduate degree;
- 5 (b) A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
6 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point average
7 of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours of credit
8 completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a
9 nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution; and
- 10 (c) An academic major or a passing score on the academic content assessment in
11 the area in which certification is being sought by the applicant as designated
12 by the Education Professional Standards Board.

13 Upon an offer of employment by a school district, the eligible veteran shall receive
14 a one (1) year provisional certificate with approval by the Education Professional
15 Standards Board of a joint application by the veteran and the employing school
16 district. During this year, the veteran shall participate in the teacher internship
17 program under KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the internship
18 program, the veteran shall receive a professional certificate.

19 (7) Option 6: University alternative program. With approval of the Education
20 Professional Standards Board, a university may provide an alternative program that
21 enrolls students in a postbaccalaureate teacher preparation program concurrently
22 with employment as a teacher in a local school district. A student in the alternative
23 program shall be granted a one (1) year provisional certificate and shall participate
24 in the Kentucky teacher internship program, notwithstanding provisions of KRS
25 161.030. A student may not participate in the internship program until the student
26 has successfully completed the assessments required by the board. The one (1) year
27 provisional certificate may be renewed two (2) additional years, and shall be

1 contingent upon the candidate's continued enrollment in the preparation program
2 and compliance with all requirements established by the board. A professional
3 certificate shall be issued upon the teacher candidate's successful completion of the
4 program, the internship program requirements, and all academic content
5 assessments in the specific teaching field of the applicant as designated by the
6 Education Professional Standards Board.

7 (8) Option 7: Certification of a person in a field other than education to teach in
8 elementary, middle, or secondary programs. This option shall not be limited to
9 teaching in shortage areas. An individual certified under provisions of this
10 subsection shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate, renewable for a
11 maximum of two (2) additional years with approval of the Education Professional
12 Standards Board.

13 (a) The candidate shall possess:

- 14 1. A bachelor's degree with a declared academic major in the area in which
15 certification is sought or a graduate degree in a field related to the area
16 in which certification is sought;
- 17 2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
18 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point
19 average of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours
20 of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework
21 from a nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution;
- 22 3. A passing score on the GRE or equivalent as designated by the
23 Education Professional Standards Board. A candidate who has a
24 terminal degree shall be exempt from the requirements of this
25 subparagraph; and
- 26 4. A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
27 certification is being sought as designated by the Education Professional

1 Standards Board.

2 (b) Prior to receiving the one (1) year provisional certificate or during the first
3 year of the certificate, the teacher shall complete the following:

4 1. For elementary teaching, the individual shall successfully complete the
5 equivalent of a two hundred forty (240) hour institute, based on six (6)
6 hour days for eight (8) weeks. The providers and the content of the
7 institute shall be approved by the Education Professional Standards
8 Board. The content shall include research-based teaching strategies in
9 reading and math, research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge
10 of individual differences, including teaching exceptional children, and
11 methods of classroom management.

12 2. For middle and secondary teaching, the individual shall successfully
13 complete the equivalent of a one hundred eighty (180) hour institute,
14 based on six (6) hour days for six (6) weeks. The providers and the
15 content of the institute shall be approved by the Education Professional
16 Standards Board and shall include research-based teaching strategies,
17 research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge of individual
18 differences, including teaching exceptional children, and methods of
19 classroom management.

20 (c) The candidate shall participate in the teacher internship program under KRS
21 161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate
22 shall receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate
23 renewal requirements the same as other teachers with a professional
24 certificate.

25 (9) Option 8: Certification of a Teach for America participant to teach in elementary,
26 middle, or high schools. Nothing in this subsection shall conflict with the
27 participation criteria of the Teach for America program. An individual certified

1 under this subsection shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate.

2 (a) The candidate shall possess:

- 3 1. An offer of employment from a local school district;
- 4 2. A bachelor's degree;
- 5 3. A successful completion of the summer training institute and ongoing
6 professional development required by Teach for America, including
7 instruction in goal-oriented, standards-based instruction, diagnosing and
8 assessing students, lesson planning and instructional delivery, classroom
9 management, maximizing learning for diverse students, and teaching
10 methodologies; and
- 11 4. A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
12 certification is being sought as designated by the Education Professional
13 Standards Board.

14 (b) The provisional certificate granted under paragraph (a) of this subsection may
15 be renewed two (2) times with a recommendation of the superintendent and
16 approval of the Education Professional Standards Board.

17 (c) A Teach for America participant who is approved for a second renewal of his
18 or her provisional certificate under paragraph (b) of this subsection may
19 participate in the teacher internship program under KRS 161.030.

20 (d) A Teach for America participant shall be issued a professional certificate upon
21 the participant's successful completion of the internship program and
22 assessments relating to teaching of subject matter required by the Education
23 Professional Standards Board under KRS 161.030.

24 (e) Notwithstanding any statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, a
25 teacher certified under this subsection shall have ten (10) years from the date
26 that the teacher successfully completed the internship program to complete a
27 master's degree or fifth year program, or the equivalent as specified by the

1 Education Professional Standards Board in administrative regulation.

2 (10) A public school teacher certified under subsections (2) to (9) of this section shall be
3 placed on the local district salary schedule for the rank corresponding to the degree
4 held by the teacher.

5 (11) Subsections (1) to (3) of this section notwithstanding, a candidate who possesses the
6 following qualifications may receive certification for teaching programs for
7 exceptional students:

8 (a) An out-of-state license to teach exceptional students;

9 (b) A bachelor's or master's degree in the certification area or closely related area
10 for which certification is sought; and

11 (c) Successful completion of the teacher internship program requirement required
12 under KRS 161.030.

13 ➔Section 13. KRS 164.512 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) The child of a veteran, regardless of age, who has acquired a disability as a direct
15 result of the veteran's service shall be eligible to receive a waiver of tuition upon
16 admission to any state-supported university, college, or vocational training institute.

17 (2) To be entitled to benefits under this section, the child claiming benefits must have
18 acquired a disability determined by the United States Department of Veterans
19 Affairs as compensable.

20 (3) The parent-child relationship must be shown by birth certificate, marriage
21 certificate, or other documentary evidence.

22 (4) To entitle a child to benefit under this section the member of the National Guard or
23 Reserve Component veteran living or deceased must **be a resident or, if deceased,**
24 **have been a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and must** have served on
25 state active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training or the veteran
26 must have served on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States, and
27 the discharge must have been:

1 (a) Under honorable conditions; or

2 (b) Under conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:

3 1. The veteran has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this

4 Act; or

5 2. The veteran is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of

6 this Act. ~~[The veteran must be a resident or, if deceased, must have been~~

7 ~~a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.]~~

8 ➔Section 14. KRS 164.515 is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) The spouse, regardless of age, and any child, stepchild, or orphan, under the age of
10 twenty-six (26), of a permanently and totally disabled member of the Kentucky
11 National Guard or Reserve Component injured while on state active duty, active
12 duty for training, or inactive duty training, or a permanently and totally disabled war
13 veteran, or a one hundred percent (100%) service-connected disabled veteran
14 regardless of wartime service, or prisoner of war or member of the Armed Services
15 declared missing in action shall not be required to pay any matriculation or tuition
16 fees upon his admission to any state-supported institution of higher education or to
17 any state-supported vocational training school for a period not in excess of forty-
18 five (45) months in order to obtain a diploma, nor in excess of the lesser number of
19 months required for a certificate of completion.

20 (2) To be entitled to benefits under this section the parent or stepparent of the child
21 claiming benefits if living must be rated permanently and totally disabled for
22 pension purposes or one hundred percent (100%) disabled for compensation
23 purposes by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of
24 Defense. If the veteran is deceased, the claim to benefits is to be based on the rating
25 held by the veteran at the time of death or if a prisoner of war or missing in action,
26 must have been declared as such by the Department of Defense. Members of the
27 Kentucky National Guard must be rated permanently and totally disabled as

1 provided in KRS Chapter 342. The parent's, stepparent's, or spouse's service and
 2 rating must be evidenced by certification from the records of the Kentucky
 3 Department of Military Affairs, United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or
 4 the Department of Defense of the United States.

5 (3) The parent-child relationship must be shown by birth certificate, legal adoption
 6 papers, marriage certificate, or other documentary evidence. A stepchild must be a
 7 member of the veteran's household. The spousal relationship must be shown by a
 8 marriage certificate or other documentary evidence.

9 (4) To entitle a spouse, child, stepchild, or orphan to benefit under this section the
 10 disabled member of the National Guard or Reserve Component veteran living or
 11 deceased must **be a resident or, if deceased, have been a resident of the**
 12 **Commonwealth of Kentucky, and must** have served on state active duty, active
 13 duty for training, or inactive duty training or active duty with the Armed Forces of
 14 the United States, and his discharge must have been:

15 **(a) Under honorable conditions; or**

16 **(b) Under conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:**

17 **1. The veteran has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this**
 18 **Act; or**

19 **2. The veteran is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of**
 20 **this Act.** ~~He must be a resident or, if deceased, have been a resident of~~
 21 ~~the Commonwealth of Kentucky.~~

22 (5) No provision of this section shall serve to deny these benefits to an eligible spouse,
 23 child, stepchild, or orphan, who enlists, or who fulfills a military obligation, in the
 24 Armed Forces of the United States and is discharged under honorable conditions;
 25 the period of time spent in the military service to be compensated by like time,
 26 beyond the age of twenty-six (26) years if required, but not in excess of the period
 27 of enrollment as set forth in subsection (1) of this section.

1 (6) The marriage of an eligible child, stepchild, or orphan, shall not serve to deny full
2 entitlement to the benefits provided in this section.

3 ➔Section 15. KRS 186.041 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Each initial and renewal application by a person who meets the criteria of paragraph
5 (a) of this section and each initial application by a person who meets the criteria of
6 paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section for a special military license plate shall be
7 accompanied by proof as set forth in subsection (10) of this section that the person
8 is associated with the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air
9 Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast
10 Guard Auxiliary, Kentucky National Guard, Merchant Marines with service
11 between December 7, 1941, and August 15, 1945, or Civil Air Patrol in one (1) of
12 the following ways:

13 (a) A member of the Armed Forces of the United States;

14 (b) A retired member;

15 (c) A member of the National Guard or Reserve component who has completed
16 his or her term of service, or has retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years
17 of service;~~[-or]~~

18 (d) A veteran who:

19 1. *Received*~~[received]~~ a discharge;

20 a. *Under*~~[under]~~ honorable conditions~~[- or the veteran's surviving~~
21 ~~spouse,]; *or*~~

22 b. *Under conditions other than bad conduct or dishonorable, and:*

23 i. *Has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this*
24 *Act; or*

25 ii. *Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of*
26 *this Act; and*~~[-]~~

27 2. a.~~[1.]~~ Performed one hundred eighty (180) days of active-duty service;

- 1 **b.**~~[2.]~~ Received an early release due to injuries or other medical
 2 condition, or at the convenience of the service;
 3 **c.**~~[3.]~~ Received a hardship discharge;
 4 **d.**~~[4.]~~ Was separated or retired due to a disability; or
 5 **e.**~~[5.]~~ Was determined to have a service-connected disability incurred
 6 during the enlistment; **or**

7 **(e) The surviving spouse of an individual who meets the criteria of paragraph**
 8 **(a), (b), (c), or (d) of this subsection.**

- 9 (2) The member, retired member, veteran, reservist, or his or her spouse who is eligible
 10 under subsection (9) of this section may purchase an unlimited number of special
 11 military-related license plates described in subsection (1) of this section, annually
 12 for vehicles they own or lease. A disabled veterans license plate shall expire on July
 13 31.
- 14 (3) A recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross
 15 shall be eligible for a Service Cross license plate upon submission of an application
 16 to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. The recipient shall be required to
 17 include with the initial application for a Service Cross license plate a copy of the
 18 general order that authorized the award and the recipient's Department of Defense
 19 form number 214. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall verify the
 20 documentation submitted with the application for a Service Cross license plate, and
 21 if the individual applying for the plate is confirmed to be a recipient of the
 22 Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, the Department of
 23 Veterans' Affairs shall submit the applicant's name to the Transportation Cabinet's
 24 Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing not later than September 1 preceding the year
 25 that the Service Cross license plate is to be initially issued or renewed. When the
 26 Service Cross license plate is ready, the plate shall be sent to the county clerk in the
 27 county of the applicant's residence. The Transportation Cabinet's Division of Motor

1 Vehicle Licensing shall inform each applicant in writing that the Service Cross
2 license plate is ready and may be picked up at the county clerk's office. The
3 Transportation Cabinet shall prescribe the type of application form required by this
4 subsection and shall supply the Department of Veterans' Affairs with the application
5 form required by this subsection.

6 (4) A person who is a former prisoner of the enemy during World War I, World War II,
7 the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or the spouse of a deceased former prisoner
8 of war, shall be eligible for a former prisoner of war license plate by submitting
9 written proof from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or other
10 appropriate federal agency stating the period of time the person or person's spouse
11 was a prisoner of war. If a former prisoner of war dies with a vehicle licensed as
12 authorized under this section, the person's surviving spouse may retain the license
13 plate for use on the same vehicle or on another vehicle that complies with KRS
14 186.164(7).

15 (5) A person who is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors
16 Association as being a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor shall be eligible for a
17 Pearl Harbor license plate and shall be required to attach to the special military-
18 related license plate application written evidence from the Kentucky chapter of the
19 Pearl Harbor Survivors Association that the person:

20 (a) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941;

21 (b) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45
22 a.m., Hawaii time, at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a
23 distance not to exceed three (3) miles;

24 (c) Was discharged honorably from the United States Armed Forces; and

25 (d) Is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors
26 Association.

27 (6) A person who is eligible to receive a Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold

1 Star Spouses license plate under KRS 186.164(15)(a) may receive up to two (2)
2 Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold Star Spouses license plates free of
3 charge and may purchase additional license plates by paying the same fee as for
4 special military-related plates issued under KRS 186.162(2)(d) annually for vehicles
5 he or she owns or leases.

6 (7) The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient, or a Kentucky National Guard
7 member or a retired member, who possessed a vehicle licensed with the Purple
8 Heart recipient special license plate or the Kentucky National Guard special license
9 plate, may retain the license plate for use on the same vehicle or another vehicle that
10 complies with KRS 186.164(7). The surviving spouse may renew the license plate
11 indefinitely, provided the appropriate registration fee is paid annually.

12 (8) A person who is attending or who is a graduate of the United States Air Force
13 Academy, the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy,
14 the United States Coast Guard Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine
15 Academy shall be eligible for a special military service academy license plate. A
16 special military service academy license plate under this subsection shall use the
17 same plate template as the standard special military license plate under subsection
18 (1) of this section, with stickers to identify the various service academies. The
19 Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to
20 KRS Chapter 13A to establish the proof required to demonstrate current attendance
21 at or graduation from a service academy. An eligible applicant may receive up to
22 two (2) special military service academy license plates.

23 (9) The legally married spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States
24 who meets the criteria for a special military license plate under subsection (1) of
25 this section shall be eligible for a special military license plate. A special military
26 license plate under this subsection shall use the same template as the standard
27 special military license plate under subsection (1) of this section, with a sticker

1 identifying the plate as that of a military spouse.

2 (10) Prior to receiving a special military-related plate requested under subsection (1) of
3 this section, the applicant shall present one (1) of the following as proof of veteran
4 status:

5 (a) An original or copy of his or her Veteran Identification Card or Veteran
6 Health Identification Card issued by the United States Department of Veterans
7 Affairs, or a DD-214, DD-256, DD-257, or NGB-22 form; or

8 (b) A current military or Geneva Conventions identification card establishing
9 current service, dependent status, or retirement status in the Armed Forces of
10 the United States.

11 ➔Section 16. KRS 186.416 is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) If a resident of the Commonwealth currently serving in the United States military is
13 stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the boundaries of the
14 Commonwealth, the resident, or the resident's spouse or dependents, may renew a
15 Class D operator's license issued under this section by mail. If the resident, or his or
16 her spouse or dependents, was issued an "under 21" operator's license, upon the date
17 of the license holder's twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" operator's license may be
18 renewed for an operator's license that no longer contains the outdated reference to
19 being "under 21."

20 (2) A resident of the Commonwealth renewing an operator's license by mail under
21 subsection (1) of this section may have a personal designee apply to the cabinet on
22 behalf of the resident to renew the resident's operator's license. An operator's license
23 being renewed by mail under subsection (1) of this section shall be issued a license
24 bearing the applicant's historical photo if there is a photo on file. If there is no photo
25 on file, the license shall be issued without a photograph and shall show in the space
26 provided for the photograph the legend "valid without photo and signature."

27 (3) (a) 1. If a resident of the Commonwealth has been serving in the United States

1 military stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the
2 boundaries of the Commonwealth and has allowed his or her operator's
3 license to expire, he or she shall, within ninety (90) days of returning to
4 the Commonwealth, be permitted to renew his or her license without
5 having to take a written test or road test.

6 2. The spouse or dependent of a person identified in subparagraph 1. of this
7 paragraph shall be afforded the same consideration identified in that
8 subparagraph regarding the renewal of an expired operator's license.

9 (b) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall not be
10 convicted or cited for driving on an expired license prior to license renewal
11 during the ninety (90) days after the person's return to the Commonwealth if
12 the person can provide proof of his or her out-of-state service and dates of
13 assignment.

14 (c) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection and who
15 does not renew his or her license within ninety (90) days of returning to the
16 Commonwealth shall be required to comply with the provisions of this chapter
17 governing renewal of a license that has expired.

18 (d) If a resident of the Commonwealth has been issued an "under 21" or "under 21
19 CDL" operator's license and the person is unable to renew the license on the
20 date of his or her twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" or "under 21 CDL"
21 operator's license shall be valid for ninety (90) days beyond the date of the
22 person's twenty-first birthday.

23 (4) (a) Any person who served in the active Armed Forces of the United States,
24 including the Coast Guard, and any member of the National Guard or Reserve
25 Component who completed the member's term of service and was released,
26 separated, discharged, or retired therefrom ~~with~~~~under either~~;

27 1. An~~an~~ honorable discharge~~or~~;

- 1 **2. A~~fa~~ general under honorable conditions discharge; or**
 2 **3. A discharge other than a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, and:**
 3 **a. Has a qualifying condition as defined in Section 1 of this Act; or**
 4 **b. Is a discharged LGBTQ veteran as defined in Section 1 of this**
 5 **Act;**

6 may, at the time of initial application or application for renewal or duplicate,
 7 request that an operator's license or a personal identification card issued under
 8 this chapter bear the word "veteran" on the face or the back of the license or
 9 personal identification card.

- 10 (b) The designation shall be in a style and format considered appropriate by the
 11 Transportation Cabinet. Prior to obtaining a designation requested under this
 12 subsection, the applicant shall present the cabinet with one (1) of the
 13 following as proof of veteran status:
 14 1. an original or copy of his or her Veteran Identification Card or Veteran
 15 Health Identification Card issued by the United States Department of
 16 Veterans Affairs, or a DD-214, DD-256, DD-257, or NGB-22 form; or
 17 2. A current military or Geneva Conventions identification card
 18 establishing current service or retirement status in the Armed Forces of
 19 the United States.

20 The cabinet shall not be liable for fraudulent or misread forms presented.