

HOUSE No. 3518

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jack Patrick Lewis

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act promoting equity in veterans' bonus eligibility.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|---|---|------------------|
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>State Treasurer and Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg</i> | <i>24 Beacon Street, Room 227, Boston, MA</i> | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>David Paul Linsky</i> | <i>5th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> | <i>3/2/2023</i> |

HOUSE No. 3518

By Representative Lewis of Framingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3518) of Jack Patrick Lewis and others relative to further regulating bonus eligibility for veterans. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act promoting equity in veterans' bonus eligibility.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Paragraph (1), subsection (b) of section 78 of chapter 10 of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 124 of the acts of 2020, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the word “however” the following words:- any veteran discharged or released
4 under other than honorable conditions due to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender
5 expression, or HIV status, based on such veteran’s DD-214 form or equivalent documentation,
6 shall be eligible for a bonus under this section; provided further,

7 SECTION 2. Subsection (g) of said section 78 is hereby further amended by striking the
8 word “service” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- service, unless any veteran is
9 discharged or released under other than honorable conditions yet deemed eligible pursuant to
10 paragraph (1), subsection (b) of this section.