

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3176

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex and Union)**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes and allocates funds for program to provide mental health services to veterans; appropriates \$2 million.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee with technical review.



1 AN ACT establishing a mental health grant program for veterans,  
2 supplementing chapter 3 of Title 38A of the New Jersey Statutes,  
3 and making an appropriation.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
8 1. a. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and  
9 Veterans' Affairs shall establish a program to provide grants to  
10 recognized veterans organizations to provide mental health services  
11 to veterans. The veterans organization shall contract with mental  
12 health care professionals to provide mental health services to  
13 veterans.

14 b. As used in this act:

15 "Mental health care professional" means a person who provides  
16 mental health services and is licensed or otherwise authorized,  
17 pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes, to practice a health care  
18 profession that is regulated by one of the following: the State Board  
19 of Medical Examiners; the State Board of Psychological Examiners;  
20 the State Board of Social Work Examiners; the State Board of  
21 Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners; the Alcohol and Drug  
22 Counselor Committee; the Professional Counselor Examiners  
23 Committee; and the Certified Psychoanalysts Advisory Committee.

24 "Veterans organization" means a veteran organization that  
25 qualifies as a section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) tax-exempt  
26 organization under the Internal Revenue Code, or a federally  
27 chartered Veterans' Service Organization. It shall also include the  
28 New Jersey SOS Veterans Stakeholders Group and the New Jersey  
29 Catholic Charities Diocese.

30 c. The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and  
31 Veterans' Affairs shall adopt regulations, pursuant to the  
32 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
33 seq.), to effectuate the purposes of this act.  
34

35 2. There is appropriated \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to  
36 the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs for the purpose of  
37 providing grants to veterans' organizations to be used to provide  
38 mental health services to veterans in accordance with section 1 of  
39 P.L. , c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
40

41 3. This act shall take effect immediately.