

SENATE FILE NO. SF0053

Veterans hiring preference.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military
Affairs Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to veterans; specifying the hiring
2 preference in public employment for veterans and surviving
3 spouses of deceased veterans; eliminating the residency
4 requirement for the preference; amending archaic language;
5 and providing for an effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-14-102(a), (c) and by creating a
10 new subsection (d) is amended to read:

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12 **19-14-102. Interview preference in public departments**
13 **or public works; qualifications.**

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1 (a) In every public department and upon all public
2 works in Wyoming, ~~members of the United States military~~
3 ~~establishment in any war or conflict as defined in section~~
4 ~~101, title 38, United States Code, honorably discharged~~
5 ~~from service, and the widows of members during widowhood,~~
6 veterans shall ~~be preferred for appointment or employment~~
7 have a preference prior to the interview process. Age or
8 other ~~physical~~ impairment which does not in fact materially
9 incapacitate shall not disqualify them from receiving
10 preference if they possess the business capacity,
11 competency, education or other qualifications for discharge
12 of the duties required. If the disabilities do not
13 materially interfere with performance of the duties, the
14 disabled veterans ~~or widows~~ shall be given preference over
15 ~~employment of able-bodied veterans, and widows. A veteran~~
16 ~~or widow who has not been a resident of the state of~~
17 ~~Wyoming for a period of one (1) year or more immediately~~
18 ~~preceding date for appointment or employment is not~~
19 ~~entitled to preference under this section and for municipal~~
20 ~~or county employment, no preference shall be granted unless~~
21 ~~the applicant under this section is a resident of the~~
22 ~~municipality or county in which employment is sought.~~

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1 (c) Whenever, ~~a veteran of any war or conflict as~~
2 ~~defined in section 101, title 38, United States Code, takes~~
3 ~~any examination under the merit system of Wyoming~~ applies
4 for initial employment with a public department that uses a
5 numerical scoring system in its hiring process, the veteran
6 shall be allowed a five ~~(5) point~~ percent (5%) advantage
7 over any nonveteran. ~~competitor for the same position or~~
8 ~~proposed employment, and if the~~ A veteran that has a
9 service connected disability of ten percent (10%) or more,
10 then the advantage given shall be ten ~~(10) points~~ percent
11 (10%). ~~This section applies only to bona fide residents of~~
12 ~~Wyoming at the time of their entry into the armed service~~
13 ~~of the United States and who are at the time of taking the~~
14 ~~examination bona fide residents of Wyoming.~~ Whenever, a
15 veteran applies for initial employment with a public
16 department and no numerical scoring system is used in the
17 hiring process, the veteran shall be given preference over
18 any equally qualified nonveteran candidate for the same
19 position or proposed employment. No preference under this
20 section shall be given to a veteran currently employed by a
21 public department.

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23 (d) As used in this section:

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(i) "Public department" includes the state of Wyoming or any of its branches, agencies, municipalities, counties, school districts, political subdivisions, special districts, community college districts and the University of Wyoming;

(ii) "Veteran" means a member of the United States military establishment honorably discharged from service or a surviving spouse of any such deceased member of the United States military establishment if the couple were married during the member's time of service.

Section 2. This act shall apply to employment or appointment initially advertised on or after July 1, 2017.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2017.

(END)