

Committee Substitute for
Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 156

An act relating to periods of wartime service for veterans; amending s. 1.01, F.S.; redefining the term “veteran” for purposes of construing the Florida Statutes to include a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraphs (h) and (i) are added to subsection (14) of section 1.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

1.01 Definitions.—In construing these statutes and each and every word, phrase, or part hereof, where the context will permit:

(14) The term “veteran” means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions only or who later received an upgraded discharge under honorable conditions, notwithstanding any action by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs on individuals discharged or released with other than honorable discharges. To receive benefits as a wartime veteran, a veteran must have served in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized or a veteran must have served during one of the following periods of wartime service:

(h) Operation Enduring Freedom: October 7, 2001, and ending on the date thereafter prescribed by presidential proclamation or by law.

(i) Operation Iraqi Freedom: March 19, 2003, and ending on the date thereafter prescribed by presidential proclamation or by law.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor May 22, 2007.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 2007.