

SEC. 210. No part of any appropriation for the fiscal year 1945 contained in this or any other Act shall be paid to any person for the filling of any position for which he or she has been nominated after the Senate has voted not to approve of the nomination of said person.

Senate disapproval of nomination, effect.

SEC. 211. The funds appropriated in the appropriation Acts for the fiscal year 1945 of the services mentioned in the title of the Act of June 16, 1942 (Public Law 607, Seventy-seventh Congress), shall be available for, and the heads of the executive departments concerned are authorized to prescribe, per diem rates of allowance, at rates not to exceed \$7 per day, in lieu of subsistence to officers traveling on official business and away from their designated posts of duty, and to members of the services concerned (including officers, warrant officers, contract surgeons, enlisted personnel, aviation cadets, and members of the Nurse Corps) when traveling by air under competent orders and on duty without troops.

Per diem rates of allowance.

56 Stat. 359.
37 U. S. C., Supp. III, §§ 101-120.
Post, pp. 682, 729.

SEC. 212. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used to pay in excess of \$2 per volume for the current and future volumes of the United States Code Annotated or in excess of \$3.25 per volume for the current or future volumes of the Lifetime Federal Digest.

U. S. Code Annotated; Lifetime Federal Digest.

SEC. 213. After January 1, 1945, no part of any appropriation or fund made available by this or any other Act shall be allotted or made available to, or used to pay the expenses of, any agency or instrumentality including those established by Executive order after such agency or instrumentality has been in existence for more than one year, if the Congress has not appropriated any money specifically for such agency or instrumentality or specifically authorized the expenditure of funds by it. For the purposes of this section, any agency or instrumentality including those established by Executive order shall be deemed to have been in existence during the existence of any other agency or instrumentality, established by a prior Executive order, if the principal functions of both of such agencies or instrumentalities are substantially the same or similar. When any agency or instrumentality is or has been prevented from using appropriations by reason of this section, no part of any appropriation or fund made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the expenses of the performance by any other agency or instrumentality of functions which are substantially the same as or similar to the principal functions of the agency or instrumentality so prevented from using appropriations, unless the Congress has specifically authorized the expenditure of funds for performing such functions.

Availability, after Jan. 1, 1945, of funds for certain agencies.

SEC. 214. This Act may be cited as the "Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1945".

Short title.

Approved June 27, 1944.

[CHAPTER 287]

AN ACT

To give honorably discharged veterans, their widows, and the wives of disabled veterans, who themselves are not qualified, preference in employment where Federal funds are disbursed.

June 27, 1944
[H. R. 4115]
[Public Law 359]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Preference Act of 1944".

Veterans' Preference Act of 1944.

SEC. 2. In certification for appointment, in appointment, in reinstatement, in reemployment, and in retention in civilian positions in all establishments, agencies, bureaus, administrations, projects, and departments of the Government, permanent or temporary, and in

Preference in Government employment.

either (a) the classified civil service; (b) the unclassified civil service; (c) any temporary or emergency establishment, agency, bureau, administration, project, and department created by Acts of Congress or Presidential Executive order; and (d) the civil service of the District of Columbia, preference shall be given to (1) those ex-service men and women who have served on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States and have been separated therefrom under honorable conditions and who have established the present existence of a service-connected disability or who are receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension by reason of public laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, the War Department or the Navy Department; (2) the wives of such service-connected disabled ex-servicemen as have themselves been unable to qualify for any civil-service appointment; (3) the unmarried widows of deceased ex-servicemen who served on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States during any war, or in any campaign or expedition (for which a campaign badge has been authorized), and who were separated therefrom under honorable conditions; and (4) those ex-servicemen and women who have served on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, during any war, or in any campaign or expedition (for which a campaign badge has been authorized), and have been separated therefrom under honorable conditions.

SEC. 3. In all examinations to determine the qualifications of applicants for entrance into the service ten points shall be added to the earned ratings of those persons included under section 2 (1), (2), and (3), and five points shall be added to the earned ratings of those persons included under section 2 (4) of this Act: *Provided*, That in examinations for the positions of guards, elevator operators, messengers, and custodians competition shall be restricted to persons entitled to preference under this Act as long as persons entitled to preference are available and during the present war and for a period of five years following the termination of the present war as proclaimed by the President or by a concurrent resolution of the Congress for such other positions as may from time to time be determined by the President.

SEC. 4. In examinations where experience is an element of qualification, time spent in the military or naval service of the United States shall be credited in a veteran's rating where his or her actual employment in a similar vocation to that for which he or she is examined was interrupted by such military or naval service. In all examinations to determine the qualifications of a veteran applicant, credit shall be given for all valuable experience, including experience gained in religious, civic, welfare, service, and organizational activities, regardless of whether any compensation was received therefor.

SEC. 5. In determining qualifications for examination, appointment, promotion, retention, transfer, or reinstatement, with respect to preference eligibles, the Civil Service Commission or other examining agency shall waive requirements as to age, height, and weight, provided any such requirement is not essential to the performance of the duties of the position for which examination is given. The Civil Service Commission or other examining agency, after giving due consideration to the recommendation of any accredited physician, shall waive the physical requirements in the case of any veteran, provided such veteran is, in the opinion of the Civil Service Commission, or other examining agency physically able to discharge efficiently the duties of the position for which the examination is given. No minimum educational requirement will be prescribed in any civil-service examination except for such scientific, technical, or

Ex-service men and women with service-connected disability.

Wives of certain disabled ex-servicemen.

Unmarried widows.

Veterans of active service in any war.

Entrance examinations. Points added to earned ratings.

Custodial employes, etc.

Where experience a qualification. Credit for time in service.

Credit for all valuable experience.

Waiver of certain physical requirements.

Minimum educational requirements.

professional positions the duties of which the Civil Service Commission decides cannot be performed by a person who does not have such education. The Commission shall make a part of its public records its reasons for such decision.

SEC. 6. Preference eligibles shall not be subject to the provisions of section 9 of the Civil Service Act concerning two or more members of a family in the service, or to the provisions of section 2 of that Act concerning apportionment of appointments in the Government departments in the District of Columbia among the several States and Territories according to population, but may be required to furnish evidence of residence and domicile.

SEC. 7. The names of preference eligibles shall be entered on the appropriate registers or lists of eligibles in accordance with their respective augmented ratings, and the name of a preference eligible shall be entered ahead of all others having the same rating: *Provided*, That, except for positions in the professional and scientific services for which the entrance salary is over \$3,000 per annum, the names of all qualified preference eligibles, entitled to ten points in addition to their earned ratings shall be placed at the top of the appropriate civil-service register or employment list, in accordance with their respective augmented ratings.

SEC. 8. When, in accordance with civil-service laws and rules, a nominating or appointing officer shall request certification of eligibles for appointment purposes, the Civil Service Commission shall certify, from the top of the appropriate register of eligibles, a number of names sufficient to permit the nominating or appointing officer to consider at least three names in connection with each vacancy. The nominating or appointing officer shall make selection for each vacancy from not more than the highest three names available for appointment on such certification, unless objection shall be made, and sustained by the Commission, to one or more of the persons certified, for any proper and adequate reason, as may be prescribed in the rules promulgated by the Civil Service Commission: *Provided*, That an appointing officer who passes over a veteran eligible and selects a nonveteran shall file with the Civil Service Commission his reasons in writing for so doing, which shall become a part of the record of such veteran eligible, and shall be made available upon request to the veteran or his designated representative; the Civil Service Commission is directed to determine the sufficiency of such submitted reasons and, if found insufficient, shall require such appointing officer to submit more detailed information in support thereof; the findings of the Civil Service Commission as to the sufficiency or insufficiency of such reasons shall be transmitted to and considered by such appointing officer, and a copy thereof shall be sent to the veteran eligible or to his designated representative upon request therefor: *Provided, further*, That if, upon certification, reasons deemed sufficient by the Civil Service Commission for passing over his name shall three times have been given by an appointing officer, certification of his name for appointment may thereafter be discontinued, prior notice of which shall be sent to the veteran eligible. Whenever in the Postal Service two or more substitutes are appointed on the same day, they shall be promoted to the regular force in the order in which their names appeared on the civil-service register from which they were originally appointed, whenever there are substitutes of the required sex who are eligible and will accept, unless such vacancies are filled by transfer or reinstatement.

SEC. 9. In the unclassified Federal, and District of Columbia, civil service, and in all other positions and employment hereinbefore referred to in (c) of section 2 hereof, the nominating or appointing

Other civil-service exemptions.
22 Stat. 406, 403.
5 U. S. C. §§ 641, 633.

Entries on registers of eligibles.

Appointment procedure.

Filing of reasons for passing over veteran.

Determination of sufficiency of reasons.

Discontinuance of certification.

Postal Service.

Unclassified service.

officer or employing official shall make selection from the qualified applicants in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Examinations authorized in certain cases.

SEC. 10. The Civil Service Commission is authorized and directed to hold an examination, during the next succeeding quarterly period, for any position to which any appointment has been made within the preceding three years, for any person included under section 2 (1), (2), and (3) of this Act upon application for examination for any such position.

Rules and regulations.

SEC. 11. The Civil Service Commission is hereby authorized to promulgate appropriate rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

Reduction in personnel, procedure.

SEC. 12. In any reduction in personnel in any civilian service of any Federal agency, competing employees shall be released in accordance with Civil Service Commission regulations which shall give due effect to tenure of employment, military preference, length of service, and efficiency ratings: *Provided*, That the length of time spent in active service in the armed forces of the United States of each such employee shall be credited in computing length of total service: *Provided further*, That preference employees whose efficiency ratings are "good" or better shall be retained in preference to all other competing employees and that preference employees whose efficiency ratings are below "good" shall be retained in preference to competing nonpreference employees who have equal or lower efficiency ratings: *And provided further*, That when any or all of the functions of any agency are transferred to, or when any agency is replaced by, some other agency, or agencies, all preference employees in the function or functions transferred or in the agency which is replaced by some other agency shall first be transferred to the replacing agency, or agencies, for employment in positions for which they are qualified, before such agency, or agencies, shall appoint additional employees from any other source for such positions.

Armed service credits.

Preferred status in retention.

Transfer of agency functions, provision for preference employees.

Reinstatements.

SEC. 13. Any preference eligible who has resigned or who has been dismissed or furloughed may, at the request of any appointing officer, be certified for, and appointed to, any position for which he may be eligible in the civil service, Federal, or District of Columbia, or in any establishment, agency, bureau, administration, project, or department, temporary or permanent.

Discharge, suspension, etc.

SEC. 14. No permanent or indefinite preference eligible, who has completed a probationary or trial period employed in the civil service, or in any establishment, agency, bureau, administration, project, or department, hereinbefore referred to shall be discharged, suspended for more than thirty days, furloughed without pay, reduced in rank or compensation, or debarred for future appointment except for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service and for reasons given in writing, and the person whose discharge, suspension for more than thirty days, furlough without pay, or reduction in rank or compensation is sought shall have at least thirty days' advance written notice (except where there is reasonable cause to believe the employee to be guilty of a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment can be imposed), stating any and all reasons, specifically and in detail, for any such proposed action; such preference eligible shall be allowed a reasonable time for answering the same personally and in writing, and for furnishing affidavits in support of such answer, and shall have the right to appeal to the Civil Service Commission from an adverse decision of the administrative officer so acting, such appeal to be made in writing within a reasonable length of time after the date of receipt of notice of such adverse decision: *Provided*, That such preference eligible shall have the right to make a personal

Advance notice.

Right of appeal.

appearance, or an appearance through a designated representative, in accordance with such reasonable rules and regulations as may be issued by the Civil Service Commission; after investigation and consideration of the evidence submitted, the Civil Service Commission shall submit its findings and recommendations to the proper administrative officer and shall send copies of same to the appellant or to his designated representative: *Provided further*, That the Civil Service Commission may declare any such preference eligible who may have been dismissed or furloughed without pay to be eligible for the provisions of section 15 hereof.

Findings and recommendations.

SEC. 15. Any preference eligible, who has been furloughed, or separated without delinquency or misconduct, upon request, shall have his name placed on all appropriate civil-service registers and/or on all employment lists, for every position for which his qualifications have been established, as maintained by the Civil Service Commission, or as shall be maintained by any agency or project of the Federal Government, or of the District of Columbia, in the order as provided in section 7 hereof, and shall then be eligible for recertification and reappointment in the order and according to the procedure as provided for in sections 7 and 8 hereof. No appointment shall be made from an examination register of eligibles, except of ten-point preference eligibles, when there are three or more names of preference eligibles on any appropriate reemployment list for the position to be filled.

Eligibility for recertification and reappointment.

SEC. 16. Any preference eligible who has resigned shall, upon request to the Civil Service Commission, have his name again placed on all proper civil-service registers for which he may have been qualified, in the order as provided for in section 7 hereof, and shall then be eligible for recertification and reappointment in the order, and according to the procedure, as provided for in sections 7 and 8 hereof.

Eligibility for reappointment after resignation.

SEC. 17. The term "Civil Service Commission" or "Commission" as used in this Act shall mean the present United States Civil Service Commission or any body or person who may by law succeed to its powers and duties, or any of them, or which or who may be designated by law to perform any specific duty and possess any specific power concerning matters covered by this Act.

Terms defined.

SEC. 18. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby modified to conform herewith, and this Act shall not be construed to take away from any preference eligible any rights heretofore granted to, or possessed by, him under any existing law, Executive order, civil-service rule or regulation, of any department of the Government or officer thereof.

Conformity of existing law.

SEC. 19. It shall be the authority and duty of the Civil Service Commission in all cases under the classified civil service to make and enforce appropriate rules and regulations to carry into full effect the provisions, intent, and purpose of this Act and such Executive orders as may be issued pursuant thereto and in furtherance thereof.

Administration of Act.

SEC. 20. Nothing contained in this Act is intended to apply to any position in or under the legislative or judicial branch of the Government or to any position or appointment which by the Congress is required to be confirmed by, or made with, the advice and consent of the United States Senate: *Provided, however*, That the provisions of this Act shall apply to appointments under Public Law Numbered 720, Seventy-fifth Congress, third session, approved June 25, 1938.

Nonapplication to certain positions.

SEC. 21. If any part of this Act shall be found to be unconstitutional, the rest of it shall be considered as in full force and effect.

Appointment of postmasters.
52 Stat. 1076.
39 U. S. C. §§ 31a, 39a; Supp. III, § 31b.
Separability.

Approved June 27, 1944.