

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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25
27
29
31
33
35
37
39
41
43
45
47
49

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 420, L.D. 585, Bill, "An Act to Change the Dates for Burial Eligibility at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery"

Amend the bill by inserting before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, passage of this bill would provide valuable support to efforts of the American Legion to have the Federal Government pass similar legislation; and

Whereas, the annual national convention of the American Legion is in June; and

Whereas, unless this bill is enacted on an emergency basis it will not take effect prior to this convention; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Further amend the bill in paragraph A-1 in subparagraph (2) in division (a) in the 4th line (page 1, line 21 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "in Vietnam" and inserting in its place the following: 'at any time during the period'

Amend the bill by inserting before the statement of fact the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

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FISCAL NOTE

This bill will increase the number of persons eligible for burial at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. The future incremental cost increases resulting from the burial of these newly eligible persons would not be significant.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

The original bill extended the length of time that service during the Vietnam Conflict period would qualify a veteran for burial in the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. However, the bill required that, for this extended period, the veteran had served that time in Vietnam. This amendment eliminates that restriction. The amendment also adds an emergency to the bill so that it may pass in time for the June convention of the American Legion when the legislation will lend support to national efforts by that organization.

Reported by the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans
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House
4/5/89 (Filing No. H-48)