

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is
5 amended by changing Section 4 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/4) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 69)

7 Sec. 4. A service officer shall be assigned to each field
8 office. He or she must be an honorably discharged veteran from
9 service in the Armed Forces of the United States who has served
10 at least 2 years of military service. As used in this Section,
11 "Armed Forces of the United States" means any of the Armed
12 Forces of the United States, including any reserve component or
13 National Guard unit. ~~He must have served during a time of~~
14 ~~hostilities with a foreign country, and must meet one or more~~
15 ~~of the following conditions:~~

16 ~~(i) The veteran served a total of at least 6 months.~~

17 ~~(ii) The veteran served for the duration of hostilities~~
18 ~~regardless of the length of engagement.~~

19 ~~(iii) The veteran was discharged on the basis of~~
20 ~~hardship.~~

21 ~~(iv) The veteran was released from active duty because~~
22 ~~of a service connected disability and was discharged under~~
23 ~~honorable conditions.~~

1 ~~As used in this Section, "time of hostilities with a~~
2 ~~foreign country" means any period of time in the past, present,~~
3 ~~or future during which a declaration of war by the United~~
4 ~~States Congress has been or is in effect or during which an~~
5 ~~emergency condition has been or is in effect that is recognized~~
6 ~~by the issuance of a Presidential proclamation or a~~
7 ~~Presidential executive order and in which the armed forces~~
8 ~~expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are~~
9 ~~awarded according to Presidential executive order.~~

10 (Source: P.A. 88-275.)

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
12 becoming law.