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SENATE BILL 5119

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senator Hargrove

Read first time 01/13/1999. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to American merchant marine veterans; and amending  
2 RCW 41.04.005.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.04.005 and 1996 c 300 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) As used in RCW 41.04.005, 41.16.220, and 41.20.050 "veteran"  
7 includes every person, who at the time he or she seeks the benefits of  
8 RCW 41.04.005, 41.04.010, 41.16.220, 41.20.050, 41.40.170, 73.04.110,  
9 or 73.08.080 has received an honorable discharge or received a  
10 discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record and who meets  
11 at least one of the following criteria:

12 (a) The person has served between World War I and World War II or  
13 during any period of war, as defined in subsection (2) of this section,  
14 as either:

15 (i) A member in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
16 States;

17 (ii) A member of the women's air forces service pilots;

18 (iii) A U.S. documented merchant mariner with service aboard an  
19 oceangoing vessel operated by the war shipping administration, the

1 office of defense transportation, or their agents, during the period of  
2 armed conflict, December 7, 1941, to (~~August 15, 1945~~) December 31,  
3 1946; or

4 (iv) A civil service crewmember with service aboard a U.S. army  
5 transport service or U.S. naval transportation service vessel in  
6 oceangoing service during the period of armed conflict, December 7,  
7 1941, to August 15, 1945; or

8 (b) The person has received the armed forces expeditionary medal,  
9 or marine corps and navy expeditionary medal, for opposed action on  
10 foreign soil, for service:

11 (i) In any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or

12 (ii) As a member of the women's air forces service pilots.

13 (2) A "period of war" includes:

14 (a) World War I;

15 (b) World War II;

16 (c) The Korean conflict;

17 (d) The Vietnam era, which was the period beginning August 5, 1964,  
18 and ending on May 7, 1975;

19 (e) The Persian Gulf War, which was the period beginning August 2,  
20 1990, and ending on the date prescribed by presidential proclamation or  
21 law;

22 (f) The period beginning on the date of any future declaration of  
23 war by the congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential  
24 proclamation or concurrent resolution of the congress; and

25 (g) The following armed conflicts, if the participant was awarded  
26 the respective campaign badge or medal: The crisis in Lebanon; the  
27 invasion of Grenada; Panama, Operation Just Cause; Somalia, Operation  
28 Restore Hope; Haiti, Operation Uphold Democracy; and Bosnia, Operation  
29 Joint Endeavor.

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