

system or systems of registration for said laborers or otherwise as in its judgment will best provide for such positions; and provide further as to all positions that the Secretary may by his rules give preference in competition for higher classes of positions to classified service employees or to classified service employees of a certain class or classes by giving credit for experience and demonstrated efficiency (not to exceed twenty per centum of all marks) in determining the relative fitness for promotion of such employees. Veterans of the military and naval services of the United States who served a minimum of [ninety (]90[)] days or were released prior to that length of service due to a service-connected disability prior to January 31, 1955, or who served on or after January 31, 1955 for a minimum of [one hundred and eighty-one (]181[)] days of continuous active duty or were released prior to that length of time due to a service-connected disability, who have either been honorably discharged or who have received a certificate of satisfactory completion of such service, and who have been bona fide residents of this State for five years or more immediately prior to filing an application, shall be given special credit for such service. Such war veterans who are disabled as a result of their war service shall be given credit of ten points in all examinations for appointments. Nondisabled veterans shall be given a credit of five points in all examinations for appointment. All such credit shall be allowed only in determining the standing on the certification of eligibles of said veteran.

(d) The same preference extended disabled veterans shall be given to [wives] SPOUSES of such veterans as have themselves been unable to qualify for merit system appointment because of disability, and to the unmarried [widows] [[WIDOWS OR WIDOWERS]] SURVIVING SPOUSE of deceased veterans who had served in any branch of the armed forces of the United States as aforesaid; such war veterans under [fifty-five] 55 years of age granted preference shall be released from age limitation, except for positions of policemen and firemen. Such war veterans having qualified with all such credits shall be certified for appointment, employment, reinstatement or reemployment before nonveterans with the same or lower examination score.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1975.

Approved April 22, 1975.

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