RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 74 (HB 385)

2024 Regular Session

Owen

Existing law (R.S. 29:288(A)(1)(a)) defines a "qualified veteran" as a member of the armed forces of the U.S. who was a resident of La. for a period of not less than 12 months immediately preceding entrance into service or for a period not less than 24 months prior to the veteran's death.

<u>New law</u> changes the residency requirement prior to death <u>from 24 to 12</u> months and extends <u>existing law</u> to include those that reported for duty to an active, National Guard, or Reserve installation or assignment in the state of La.

Existing law (R.S. 29:288(A)(1)(b)) defines "qualified veteran" as one who is rated 90% to 100% service-connected disabled by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs by evaluation of the rating schedule or is determined by the department to be unemployable as a result of a service-connected disability and has been a resident of La. for a period of not less than 24 months prior to the admission of the veteran's child into a program of education at a public postsecondary institution.

<u>New law</u> changes the definition of "qualified veteran" as one who has been a resident of La. for a period of not less than 12 months prior to the admission of the veteran's child into a program of education at a public postsecondary institution.

Existing law (R.S. 29:288(B)(1)) defines "qualified veteran" as a member of the armed forces of the U.S. who was killed in action, died in active service from other causes, is missing in action, is a prisoner of war, died as a result of a service-connected disability incurred during a wartime period as defined in R.S. 29:251.2, or who, prior to death, was rated 90% to 100% service-connected disabled by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs by evaluation of the rating schedule or was determined by the department to be unemployable as a result of a service-connected disability, and was a resident of Louisiana for a period of not less than 12 months immediately preceding entrance into service or for a period not less than 24 months prior to death.

<u>New law</u> changes the time requirement prior to service from 24 to 12 months and extends <u>existing law</u> to include those who reported for duty to an active, National Guard, or Reserve installation or assignment in the state of La.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 29:288(A)(1) and (B)(1))