

By Ms. Hildt of Amesbury, petition of Barbara Hildt for legislation to include Merchant Marine veterans under the definition of "veteran". Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT FURTHER DEFINING THE WORD "VETERAN".

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The first paragraph of clause Forty-third of  
2 section 7 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1990  
3 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in line 4 after the  
4 word "guard" the following words: — merchant marine.

1 SECTION 2. Said clause Forty-third of said section 7 of said  
2 chapter 4 is hereby further amended by striking out the second  
3 paragraph, as amended by section 1 of chapter 109 of the acts  
4 of 1991, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —  
5 "Wartime service" shall mean service performed by a "Spanish  
6 War veteran", a "World War I veteran", a "World War II veteran",  
7 a "Korean veteran", a "Vietnam veteran", a "Lebanese peace  
8 keeping force veteran", a "Grenada rescue mission veteran", a  
9 "Panamanian intervention force veteran", a "Persian Gulf  
10 veteran", Merchant Marine veteran or a member of the "WAAC"  
11 as defined in this clause during any of the periods of time described  
12 herein or for which such medals described below are awarded.

1 SECTION 3. Said clause Forty-third of said section 7 of said  
2 chapter 4 is hereby further amended by inserting after the twelfth  
3 paragraph, as inserted by section 2 of chapter 109 of the acts  
4 of 1991, the following paragraph: —

5 "Merchant Marine veteran" shall mean who performed such  
 6 wartime service as a merchant marine seaman, or as a civil service  
 7 crew member aboard an Army Transport Service or Naval Service  
 8 Transportation vessel between December 7, 1941 and August 15,  
 9 1945.