
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, June 30, 1966.*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.*

Chapter 708 of the Acts of 1941 was primarily enacted for the purpose of affording returning veterans, who had previously been employed in the Civil Service, a reasonable opportunity to regain their old jobs and avoid certain other undue hardships.

Chapter 708, as amended, for example, provides that a person who left a Civil Service position to serve in the armed forces shall be reinstated, if he is physically qualified, in that position upon his request within two years after termination of his military service. It further provides that if a person is so reinstated, he shall not lose seniority or other such rights. In a similar manner, Chapter 708 makes equitable provision for those who, while not actually holding a civil service position, were on a "civil service" list as eligible for appointment at the time they entered the armed services.

Rather than recount the specific provisions of Chapter 708, it is sufficient to state that it is designed to eliminate the possibility of an individual's service in the armed forces prejudicing any rights which he might have under the Civil Service laws of the Commonwealth.

Chapter 708 will expire on July 1, 1966. In order to make its benefits available to those men who are presently serving in the armed forces of our nation, it would appear that the effective period of this Chapter should be extended. Accordingly, I propose that the benefits afforded by Chapter 708 should be made available to our returning veterans until July 1, 1967. The attached legislation would accomplish this purpose. I strongly urge that Your Honorable Bodies grant it your prompt approval.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. VOLPE,
Governor of the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Six.

AN ACT EXTENDING THE DATES OF TERMINATION OF CERTAIN ACTS RELATING TO THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF VETERANS.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to
2 defeat its purpose, which is to extend the time within which
3 certain civil service and other rights shall be extended to veter-
4 ans, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law and
5 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public con-
6 venience.

*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. Section 25 of chapter 708 of the acts of 1941, as
2 most recently amended by chapter 726 of the acts of 1965, is
3 hereby amended by striking out the words "July first, nineteen
4 hundred and sixty-six" and inserting in place thereof the follow-
5 ing words: — July first, nineteen hundred and sixty-seven.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of June thirtieth,
2 nineteen hundred and sixty-six.