

HOUSE No. 355

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF VETERANS' SERVICES
LEVERETT SALTONSTALL BUILDING, GOVERNMENT CENTER
100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, BOSTON 02202, NOVEMBER 4, 1974.

The Honorable John F. X. Davoren, *Secretary of the Commonwealth*,
State House, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Mr. Secretary: - The following recommendations for the year 1975, accompanied by drafts of proposed measures are submitted to your office in conformity with Section 30 of the General Laws, as amended. These drafts have been submitted to the Counsel of the House of Representatives as required by law.

I. AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EXPENSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF CERTAIN VIETNAM VETERANS.

The current law - Chapter 69, Section 7B - provides expenses for higher education of a child between the ages of 16 and 24 of a veteran of World War I, World War II and Korea, who was killed in action or who died from other causes as a result of such service.

Payment of said expenses is not to exceed \$750.00 in any one year. There is no provision for the children of veterans of Vietnam who died under similar circumstances. This legislation would provide the same benefit for children of Vietnam Veterans as is provided for children of veterans of other wars.

2. AN ACT REDEFINING THE WORD "DEPENDENT" FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW RELATIVE TO VETERANS BENEFITS.

This bill would amend the present definition of dependent by including the word "widower" in said definition and also by clarifying the language defining the word "full-time student" as found in said definition.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES N. COLLATOS
Commissioner