

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1995) of Richard T. Moore, Bruce E. Tarr, Joyce A. Spiliotis, Edward G. Connolly and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide a bonus for armed forces serving in Bosnia or other conflicts or peacekeeping missions. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING A BONUS FOR ARMED FORCES SERVING IN BOSNIA OR OTHER CONFLICTS OR PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS.

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. Chapter 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2002 Official edition, is amended by adding the following new
3 section:—

4 Section 7. Upon application, as hereinafter provided, there shall
5 be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the commonwealth
6 without appropriation to each person who participated in the
7 Bosnian Peace Mission at any time between January first, nine-
8 teen hundred and ninety-six at the end of the mission as deter-
9 mined by federal authorities the sum hereinafter specified.

10 Said appropriation shall also be provided to any person serving
11 in the armed forces in any subsequent conflict or peacekeeping
12 mission in which members of the armed forces have participated.
13 Provided, that the domicile of every person on account of whose
14 service the application is filed shall have been in the common-
15 wealth for a period of not less than six months immediately prior
16 to the time of his entry into the service and his enlistment, induc-
17 tion or commission in said armed forces was credited to the quota
18 of Massachusetts under the federal selective service act. Five hun-
19 dred dollars shall be paid to each such person who performed the
20 continental limits of the United States in the Bosnian area as said
21 area is described by proper federal authority.

22 Said appropriation shall also be provided to any person serving
23 in the armed forces in any subsequent conflict or peacekeeping
24 mission in which members of the armed forces have participated.

1 SECTION 2. The words, “armed forces”, as used in this act
2 shall mean the following: United States Army, Army of the United
3 States, United States Navy, United States Naval Reserve, United
4 States Marine Corps, United States Marine Corps Reserve, United
5 States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Reserve, Army
6 Nurse Corps, Navy Nurse Corps, United States Air Force, United
7 States Air Force Reserve and the Massachusetts National Guard
8 and including women’s branches of said armed forces.

1 SECTION 3. In the case of the death of any person who would,
2 if alive, be entitled to the benefits of this act, the sum named
3 therein shall be paid to his heirs-at-law; provided, that if there is
4 more than one heir-at-law, payments shall in either case be made
5 in such proportions as the state treasurer shall determine, and in
6 determining the order of precedence so far as practicable the
7 following order shall be observed: wife and children, mother or
8 father, brother or sister, other dependents; provided, however, that
9 no right or payment under this act shall be subject to the claim of
10 creditors, capable of assignment, regarded as assets, legal or equi-
11 table of the estate of the deceased or made the basis for adminis-
12 tration thereof.