

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3518**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Jack Patrick Lewis***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

**An Act promoting equity in veterans' bonus eligibility.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>State Treasurer and Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg</i>	<i>24 Beacon Street, Room 227, Boston, MA</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/24/2023</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>5/1/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3518**

By Representative Lewis of Framingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3518) of Jack Patrick Lewis and others relative to further regulating bonus eligibility for veterans. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act promoting equity in veterans' bonus eligibility.

*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. Paragraph (1), subsection (b) of section 78 of chapter 10 of the General  
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 124 of the acts of 2020, is hereby amended by  
3 inserting after the word “however” the following words:- any veteran discharged or released  
4 under other than honorable conditions due to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender  
5 expression, or HIV status, based on such veteran’s DD-214 form or equivalent documentation,  
6 shall be eligible for a bonus under this section; provided further,

7 SECTION 2. Subsection (g) of said section 78 is hereby further amended by striking the  
8 word “service” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- service, unless any veteran is  
9 discharged or released under other than honorable conditions yet deemed eligible pursuant to  
10 paragraph (1), subsection (b) of this section.