

SENATE No. 2358

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John C. Velis

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 equality in veterans' bonus eligibility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>Hampden and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>

SENATE No. 2358

By Mr. Velis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2358) of John C. Velis, Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General and Jack Patrick Lewis for legislation to promote equality in veterans' bonus eligibility. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act promoting equality 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.