

SENATE BILL NO. 72

BY SENATORS PEACOCK, BARROW, BISHOP, CARTER AND MORRELL AND REPRESENTATIVES BAGLEY, COX, CROMER, HORTON, JEFFERSON AND PIERRE

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AN ACT

To enact Part VII of Chapter 9 of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 23:1001, relative to employment of veterans; to provide for legislative intent; to authorize certain private employers to provide preferences in employment for certain veterans; to provide for policy; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Part VII of Chapter 9 of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 23:1001, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART VII. EMPLOYMENT OF VETERANS

§1001. Preference in hiring veterans for private employers

A.(1) The intent of the legislature is to authorize private employers to establish a preference in employment for certain veterans which shall be analogous to the system by which the state and city governments give preferences in employment to veterans pursuant to Article X, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that the provisions of this Section are permissive and not mandatory as it relates to private employers.

B. A private employer may adopt an employment policy that gives preference in hiring to all of the following:

(1) An honorably discharged veteran.

(2) The spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability.

(3) The unremarried widow or widower of a veteran who died of a service-connected disability.

1 **(4) The unmarried widow or widower of a member of the United States**
2 **Armed Forces who died in the line of duty under combat-related conditions.**

3 **C. An employer may voluntarily establish a policy which grants**
4 **preference in hiring to a veteran or a certain family member of a veteran**
5 **pursuant to the provisions of this Part.**

6 **D. The preferences for the employment of veterans provided for in this**
7 **Part shall not be considered a violation of any state or local equal employment**
8 **opportunity law.**

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____