

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 450

BY REPRESENTATIVE KERNER

CIVIL SERVICE/FIRE & POL: Provides relative to points awarded to veterans in competitive fire and police civil service employment

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2491(E) and 2551(5), relative to the fire and police civil  
3 service; to provide relative to points awarded to veterans in competitive fire and  
4 police civil service employment; to provide for military service requirements of  
5 veterans in competitive fire and police civil service employment; and to provide for  
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:2491(E) and 2551(5) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
9 as follows:

10 §2491. Establishment and maintenance of employment lists

11 Except for the positions of entrance firefighter, entrance police officer,  
12 entrance jailer, secretary to the chief, departmental records clerk, and for the entrance  
13 classes for which the operation and maintenance of radio, alarm, or signal systems  
14 for the respective fire or police service is the primary duty, the board shall establish  
15 and maintain employment lists containing names of persons eligible for appointment  
16 to the various classes of positions in the classified service, as follows:

17 \* \* \*

18 E. Any person whose name is placed upon the competitive employment list  
19 for the entrance or lowest ranking class in the classified service who has served in  
20 the armed forces of the United States of America during the times of war or for one  
21 hundred eighty days or more, and has been honorably discharged or discharged

1 under honorable conditions, shall have added to his final test score a total of five  
2 points at the time of placing his name upon the list. Proof of such service and  
3 discharge shall be required by the board or the state examiner in any manner it deems  
4 advisable.

5 \* \* \*

6 §2551. Establishment and maintenance of employment lists

7 Except for the positions of entrance firefighter, entrance police officer,  
8 entrance jailer, secretary to the chief, departmental records clerk, and for the entrance  
9 classes for which the operation and maintenance of radio, alarm, or signal systems  
10 for the respective fire or police service is the primary duty, the board shall establish  
11 and maintain lists containing names of persons eligible for appointment to the  
12 various classes of positions in the classified service as follows:

13 \* \* \*

14 (5) Any person whose name is placed upon the competitive employment list  
15 for the entrance or lowest ranking class in the classified service who has served in  
16 the armed forces of the United States of America during time of war or for one  
17 hundred eighty days or more, and who has been honorably discharged or discharged  
18 under honorable conditions, shall have added to his final test score a total of five  
19 points at the time of placing his name upon the list. Proof of such service and  
20 discharge shall be required by the board or state examiner in any manner it deems  
21 advisable.

22 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 450 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Kerner

**Abstract:** Provides that any person who is on the competitive employment list for the entrance or lowest ranking class in the classified service and who has served in the U.S. armed forces for 180 days or more shall receive an additional five points on his final test score at the time of his placement on the list.

Present constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 constitution made statutory by the 1974 constitution.

Present law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Proposed law retains present constitution and present law.

Present law requires a local civil service board to establish and maintain employment lists containing names of persons eligible for appointment to the various classes of positions in the classified service, except the positions of entrance firefighter, entrance police officer, entrance jailer, secretary to the chief, departmental records clerk, and entrance classes for which the operation and maintenance of radio, alarm, or signal systems for the respective fire or police service is the primary duty.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the state examiner to add a total of five points to the final test score of any person who appears on the competitive employment list for the entrance or lowest ranking class in the classified service and who has served in the U.S. armed forces during times of war and has been honorably discharged.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that any person who has served in the U.S. armed forces for 180 days or more and has been honorably discharged shall receive a total of five points to his final test score.

(Amends R.S. 33:2491(E) and 2551(5))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Change military service requirements from during times of war for 180 days or more to during times of war or for 180 days or more.