

By: Corte

H.B. No. 2342

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to eligibility for certain programs of the Veterans' Land
3 Board.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 161.001(a)(7), Natural Resources Code,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (7) "Veteran" means a person who:

8 (A)(i) served not less than 90 [~~continuous~~] days,
9 unless sooner discharged by reason of a service-connected
10 disability, on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast
11 Guard, United States Public Health Service (as constituted under 42
12 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), or Marine Corps of the United States
13 after September 16, 1940, and who on the date of filing an
14 application under the program has not been dishonorably discharged
15 from the branch of the service in which the person served;

16 (ii) has at least 20 years of active or
17 reserve military service as computed when determining the person's
18 eligibility to receive retired pay under applicable federal law;

19 (iii) has enlisted or received an
20 appointment in the Texas National Guard, who has completed all
21 initial active duty training required as a condition of the
22 enlistment or appointment, and who on the date of filing the
23 person's application has not been dishonorably discharged from the
24 Texas National Guard; or

1 (iv) served in the armed forces of the
2 Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, if
3 the board adopts a rule regarding these veterans under Subsection
4 (b);

5 (B) at the time of the person's enlistment,
6 induction, commissioning, appointment, or drafting was a bona fide
7 resident of this state or has resided in this state at least one
8 year immediately before the date of filing an application under
9 this chapter; and

10 (C) at the time of the person's application under
11 this chapter is a bona fide resident of this state. The term
12 includes the unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran who died or who
13 is identified as missing in action if the deceased or missing
14 veteran meets the requirements of this section, with the exception
15 that the deceased or missing veteran need not have served 90
16 [~~continuous~~] days under Paragraph (A)(i) of this subdivision, and
17 if the deceased or missing veteran was a bona fide resident of this
18 state at the time of enlistment, induction, commissioning,
19 appointment, or drafting.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.