Public Law 101-478
101st Congress

An Act

To amend the Act incorporating the American Legion so as to redefine eligibility for membership therein.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to incorporate The American Legion", approved September 16, 1919 (41 Stat. 285; 36 U.S.C. 45), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 5. No person shall be a member of this corporation unless he has served in the naval or military services of the United States at some time during any of the following periods; April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950, to January 31, 1955; December 22, 1961, to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982, to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990; all dates inclusive, or who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of entry therein, served in the military or naval service of any governments associated with the United States during said wars or hostilities: Provided, however, That such person shall have an honorable discharge or separation from such service or continues to serve honorably after any of the aforesaid terminal dates."


LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 3091 (H.R. 5652):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-866 accompanying H.R. 5652 (Comm. on the Judiciary).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 136 (1990):
Sept. 28, considered and passed Senate.
Oct. 15, H.R. 5652 and S. 3091 considered and passed House.