

(H.B.2699)
(Conference)

(No. 122)

(Approved July 20, 2000)

AN ACT

To add a clause (e) to subsection A of Section 4 of Act No. 13 of October 2, 1980, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Veterans’ Bill of Rights”, in order to establish that all Commonwealth and Municipal government agencies shall post copies of competitive job offerings at the Puerto Rico Veterans’ Advocate Office, that shall notify all duly-organized veteran groups, through an electronic page accessible on Internet, or any other means it deems pertinent; and for other purposes.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

On October 2, 1980, Act No. 13, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Veterans Bill of Rights” was enacted. Said act establishes certain basic rights that every veteran should have. Each of the rights stated in the Bill of Rights has the intention of giving a fairer treatment to the veterans by recognizing several very well deserved privileges for them.

As part of the basic rights of the veterans, there are those related to the labor sector. Regarding this right, veterans are given preference under equal academic conditions; the veteran is reinstated in the same position he/she or held of the work he/she was performing when called to the Armed Forces; five (5) points or five percent (5%), whichever is greater, are added to the grade they obtained in any exam or test required to qualify for a job; and are offered competitive tests that they were able to take because they were in active service.

All of the above rights are very important, but there is one missing, which is to be well-informed regarding competitive job offerings that are available in the Commonwealth and the Municipal governments at all times. With the approval of this legislation, an additional right is granted to what they have now, because they will be informed, through the Veterans' Advocate, of all the available free competitive job offerings so that our veterans can thus avail themselves of all the rights offered by the "Puerto Rico Veterans' Bill of Rights."

This Legislature, in acknowledgment of our veterans courage and deeds, and of the difficulties they face when looking for a job, deems it is necessary to provide the information to all veterans of all the jobs available in the state and the municipal governments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- A paragraph (e) is hereby added to subsection A of Section 4 of Act No. 13 of October 2, 1980, as amended, to read as follows:

"Section 4.- Rights granted by the Puerto Rico Veterans Bill of Rights
The following rights are granted in benefits of veterans:

A. Rights related to work. –

The Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, its agencies and instrumentalities, public or quasi-public corporations, municipalities, and all individuals, natural or juridical persons that operate businesses in Puerto Rico, shall be bound to:

(a) ...

(e) Post copies of all free competence job offerings to the Puerto Rico Veterans' Advocate Office, who shall then notify them to all duly organized veterans groups, through its electronic web page accessible by Internet, or any other means deemed pertinent.

B. ...”

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect one hundred and eighty (180) days after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 122 (H.B. 2699) (Conference) of the 7th Session of the 13th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to add a clause (e) to subsection A of Section 4 of Act No. 13 of October 2, 1980, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Veterans’ Bill of Rights”, in order to establish that all Commonwealth and Municipal government agencies shall post copies of competitive job offerings at the Puerto Rico Veterans’ Advocate Office, that shall notify all duly-organized veteran groups, through an electronic page accessible on Internet, or any other means it deems pertinent; and for other purposes,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 10th of November of 2003.

Elba Rosa Rodríguez-Fuentes
Director

