



2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 385

August 11, 2023 - Introduced by Representatives SORTWELL, BEHNKE, C. ANDERSON, DONOVAN, MURPHY, SCHMIDT, SHANKLAND, SNYDER, STEFFEN, SUBECK, WICHGERS, CABRERA, GUSTAFSON and EDMING, cosponsored by Senators CABRAL-GUEVARA, JACQUE, JAMES, LARSON, SMITH, TAYLOR, TESTIN and TOMCZYK. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 **AN ACT to create** 45.01 (12) (k) of the statutes; **relating to:** indication of Hmong
2 veteran status on an operator's license or identification card.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a veteran of the U.S. armed forces may elect to indicate his or her veteran status on his or her Wisconsin operator's license or identification card. "Veteran" is a defined term that includes individuals who have served a specified period of active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces.

This bill adds to the definition of "veteran" any person who was admitted to the United States under the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act. This definition applies only for the purpose of enabling such a person to indicate on his or her operator's license or identification card that he or she is a veteran and does not apply to any other veteran benefit.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 45.01 (12) (k) of the statutes is created to read:
4 45.01 (12) (k) For purposes of ss. 343.14 and 343.17 only, a person who was
5 admitted into the United States as a refugee from Laos under 8 USC 1157 and served

ASSEMBLY BILL 385**SECTION 1**

1 with a special guerilla unit, or irregular forces, operating from a base in Laos in
2 support of the U.S. military during the period beginning February 28, 1961, and
3 ending September 18, 1978. The person shall provide documentation of the person's
4 service with a special guerilla unit or irregular forces as provided under section 4 of
5 the federal Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 2000, P.L. 106-207.

6 **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

7 (1) This act first applies to applications that are received by the department of
8 transportation on the effective date of this subsection.

9 (END)