

An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 479

By: Stanley and Jett of the
Senate

and

West (Josh) of the House

An Act relating to soldiers and sailors; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-137, which relates to Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act; modifying definition; amending 72 O.S. 2021, Section 2, which relates to certain definition; modifying definition; updating statutory references; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Space Force

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-137, is amended to read as follows:

As used in the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act:

1. "Covered voter" means:
 - a. a uniformed-service voter or an overseas voter who is registered to vote in this state,
 - b. a uniformed-service voter defined in subparagraph a of paragraph 9 of this section, whose voting residence is in this state and who otherwise satisfies this state's voter eligibility requirements,

- c. an overseas voter who, before leaving the United States, was last eligible to vote in this state and, except for a state residency requirement, otherwise satisfies this state's voter eligibility requirements,
- d. an overseas voter who, before leaving the United States, would have been last eligible to vote in this state had the voter then been of voting age and, except for a state residency requirement, otherwise satisfies this state's voter eligibility requirements, or
- e. an overseas voter who was born outside the United States, is not described in subparagraph c or d of this paragraph, and, except for a state residency requirement, otherwise satisfies this state's voter eligibility requirements, if:
 - (1) the last place where a parent or legal guardian of the voter was, or under ~~this act~~ the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act would have been, eligible to vote before leaving the United States is within this state, and
 - (2) the voter has not previously registered to vote in any other state;

2. "Dependent" means an individual recognized as a dependent by a uniformed service;

3. "Federal postcard application" means the application prescribed under Section 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1973ff(b)(2);

4. "Federal write-in absentee ballot" means the ballot described in Section 103 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1973ff-2;

5. "Military-overseas ballot" means:

- a. a federal write-in absentee ballot,

- b. a ballot specifically prepared or distributed for use by a covered voter in accordance with ~~this act~~ Section 14-136 et seq. of this title, or
- c. a ballot cast by a covered voter in accordance with ~~this act~~ the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act;

6. "Overseas voter" means a United States citizen who is outside the United States;

7. "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

8. "Uniformed service" means:

- a. active and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, or Coast Guard of the United States,
- b. the Merchant ~~Marine~~ Marines, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, or the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States, or
- c. the National Guard and state militia;

9. "Uniformed-service voter" means an individual who is qualified to vote and is:

- a. a member of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, or Coast Guard of the United States who is on active duty,
- b. a member of the Merchant ~~Marine~~ Marines, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, or the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States,

- c. a member on activated status of the National Guard or state militia, or
- d. a spouse or dependent of a member referred to in this paragraph; and

10. "United States", used in the territorial sense, means the several states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 72 O.S. 2021, Section 2, is amended to read as follows:

The words "ex-service person", "veteran", or "war veteran" used in ~~this act~~ Section 1 et seq. of this title shall be construed to mean any person who:

1. Has served the full obligation for active duty, Reserve or National Guard service in the military uniformed service as defined in Section 14-137 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or received an early discharge for a medical condition, hardship, or reduction in force; and

2. Has been separated or discharged from such service honorably or under honorable conditions.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

Passed the Senate the 7th day of March, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 19th day of April, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____