

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE READOPTION

N.J.A.C. 5A:10 NEW JERSEY VIETNAM 25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has proposed for re-adoption N.J.A.C. 5A:10 that articulate the minimum criteria for the awarding of the New Jersey Vietnam 25th Anniversary Commemorative Medal and ribbon to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the ending of the Vietnam Conflict in January 1973 and establish procedures for eligible individuals to request an award of, if deceased, their surviving spouse or immediate family member to request an award on their behalf. As the Department has provided a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirements, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

The year 1998 marked the 25th Anniversary of the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the National Liberation Front's provisional revolutionary government signing an agreement to end the war in Vietnam. The conflict that was declared over in 1973 was a uniquely important event in the political and domestic history of Southeast Asia and this country. The United States' involvement in that conflict resulted in great domestic turmoil and dispute in this nation, as well as over 50,000 American servicemen killed, including 1,515 from New Jersey. The rules proposed for re-adoption with amendments allow the State of New Jersey to recognize the military service of its sons and daughters through the awarding of this medal. It is fitting and proper for the State to recognize those among its residents who served proudly and those who died bravely in the Vietnam Conflict on the 25th anniversary of its ending, because in 1973 those same individuals were often ignored or scorned for their service to their country.

The proposed rule will be published in the December 21, 2020 edition of the New Jersey Register and can also be found at:

<http://www.nj.gov/military/admincode/proposedrules/NJAC5A-10Vietnam.pdf>

The deadline for comments is February 19, 2021. Comments may be submitted to:

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