

CHAPTER 11

AN ACT requiring the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to provide a surviving beneficiary of a deceased service member with certain information and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 38A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.38A:3-28.1 Provision of certain information to surviving beneficiary of deceased service member.

1. a. Upon receipt of the notice from the United States Department of Defense of the death of a service member who resided in this State and whose surviving beneficiary resides in this State, the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall notify the appropriate State veterans service office and the office shall provide the surviving beneficiary of a deceased service member with a comprehensive packet containing information on all federal and State benefits for which the surviving beneficiary may be eligible. The department shall develop the packet and provide all State veterans service offices with a supply of packets for distribution.

This section shall also apply when a deceased service member is not a resident of this State, but whose surviving beneficiary is a resident of this State, if that information is known.

b. For the purpose of this section:

“Child” means the individual who is a son or daughter by birth or adoption.

“Deceased service member” means any member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a Reserve component thereof or a member of the National Guard who dies as a result of enemy action, accident or disease while on federal active duty, including active duty for training.

“Parent” means the individual who is a father or mother by birth or adoption.

“Spouse” means the individual to whom the deceased service member was legally married at the time of the member's death.

“Surviving beneficiary” means the spouse, child or parent of a deceased service member who resides in this State.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 6, 2010.