

## CHAPTER 288

**AN ACT** creating a financial planning assistance program for disabled veterans and their caregivers 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:3-2b6 Financial planning assistance program for disabled veterans and their caregivers.

1. The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, through its regional network of Veteran Service Offices, shall establish a financial planning assistance program for disabled veterans and their caregivers. The purpose of the program shall be to assist disabled veterans and their caregivers with planning for the financial burdens that may arise when a veteran is disabled and needs assistance with daily care and activities including, but not limited to, bathing, dressing, meal preparation, assistance with mobility, housekeeping, shopping, and driving or transportation.

"Caregiver" shall mean a spouse, parent, child, relative or other person who is 18 years of age or older and who has the primary responsibility of providing daily care for the eligible veteran. "Disabled veteran" shall mean any citizen and resident of this State now or hereafter honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, a Reserve component thereof, or the National Guard and who has been or shall be declared by the United States Veterans Administration, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability.

The Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall promulgate, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

2. This act shall take effect six months from the date of enactment, except the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

Approved January 19, 2016.