

# Veterans' Activities

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Department of Veterans' Affairs

Oregon's World War II servicemen were voted a bonus by the electorate last November 7, but the state Department of Veterans' Affairs, which will administer the act, advises veterans to be patient because further legislation is necessary before the program can get under way. Best guess is that it will be this October before payments start.

The act provides for the sale of bonds to finance the bonus fund, but requires the state legislature to set the term and the rate of interest on the bonds, so this and possibly other enabling legislation must be taken care of before the veterans' department can start issuing application blanks. Plans are going ahead, however, for a study of the bonus cost, for preparation of a budget to administer the program, and for enactment of necessary rules and regulations, so that these matters won't stand in the way of making payments when the time comes.

The act provides payment of \$10 for each month of domestic service and \$15 per month of foreign duty, to a maximum of \$600, to those who were bona fide Oregon residents for at least one year immediately prior to World War II active duty. They must have served at least 90 days between Sept. 16, 1940, and June 30, 1946, and have been honorably discharged.

The \$600 maximum is payable to the veteran "whose services were terminated by reason of service connected disabilities and who, upon filing a claim for disabilities with the Veterans Administration within three months after separation, was rated not less than 50 percent disabled as the result of such claim."

Also eligible for the maximum is the survivor or survivors of the deceased veteran whose death was caused or contributed to by a service connected

disease or disability incurred in service under conditions other than dishonorable. If death was not due to service, the survivor will receive the amount the veteran would have received had he lived. Eligible survivors include the unremarried wife, children, and parents, in that order.

The bonus is exempt from state or federal taxation, and the deadline for applying is Dec. 1, 1952.

Because the act may require the original discharge papers as evidence of service, those veterans who have lost these papers are advised to file immediately with their branch of the armed forces for a "certificate in lieu of lost discharge." Aid in filing for such papers can be obtained from veterans' organization service officers, county service officers, or the state veterans' department, State Library Bldg., Salem, or 415 S.W. 11th avenue, Portland.

## State Vet's Loans Amended

Voters in November also approved an amendment to the Oregon World War II veterans' home and farm loan program, which makes the loan available to a person who enlisted from another state but came to Oregon and lived here for two years between date of discharge and Dec. 31, 1950. Previously, he would have had to be an Oregon resident when he entered service to be entitled.

These newly qualified veterans can apply immediately, as this amendment became effective Dec. 1. They may apply locally through county or post service officers, or direct to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Salem or Portland.

Active service must have been for at least 90 days between Sept. 1, 1940, and Sept. 2, 1945. The applicant may

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