



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3658/3
MLJ:cdc&skw

2019 BILL

1 **AN ACT to amend** 45.44 (3) (c) (intro.) and 45.51 (2) (a) 1.; and **to create** 36.27
2 (2) (b) 5., 36.27 (3p) (a) 1r. g., 38.24 (8) (a) 1r. g. and 45.01 (12) (fm) of the statutes;
3 **relating to:** expanding veterans benefits to individuals who served in Laos in
4 support of the United States during the Vietnam War.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill expands the definition of "veteran" to include individuals who were naturalized pursuant to the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 2000 or individuals who the secretary of Veterans Affairs has determined served honorably with a special guerrilla unit or irregular forces operating from a base in Laos in support of the armed forces of the United States at any time during the period from February 28, 1961, to May 7, 1975, and who are citizens of the United States or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States who reside in Wisconsin. The bill extends most veterans benefits to anyone who meets this newly expanded definition of veteran, however, admission to a state veterans home and burial in a veterans cemetery are not included benefits as they are subject to federal regulation.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

5 **SECTION 1.** 36.27 (2) (b) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

