



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 496

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H.P. 359

House of Representatives, February 9, 2017

### **An Act To Update Maine's Veterans' Benefits Eligibility Requirements**

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Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative KINNEY of Limington. (BY REQUEST)

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §607**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 397, §14, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **§607. Admission**

5 Veterans desiring admission to the homes must apply on forms prescribed by the  
6 chief executive officer. The chief executive officer shall grant admission only to veterans  
7 who were residents of Maine at the time of their entry into the United States Armed  
8 Forces or who are residents of Maine at the time of application, and to the spouses,  
9 widows or widowers of eligible veterans, as long as suitable facilities are available.  
10 Parents of armed services members who are killed in action or die as a consequence of  
11 wounds received in battle are also eligible, as so-called "gold star" parents, for admission.  
12 Residents of Maine who served at least 180 days, inclusive of training, in the Maine  
13 National Guard during a federally recognized war period as described by Title 36, section  
14 653 are also eligible for admission. Admission must be granted when provisions of the  
15 rules governing private payment, Medicare and Medicaid eligibility to entitled persons  
16 are met.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill expands eligibility for admission to Maine Veterans' Homes to residents of  
19 Maine who served at least 180 days in the Maine National Guard during a federally  
20 recognized war period.