An Ordinance recommended by the Civil Service Commission pertaining to applicants seeking employment with the City of St. Louis in positions under the classified service plan; finding that service in the U.S. Armed Forces is meritorious, adding new provisions that establish a military veteran hiring preference system; containing definitions; scoring system and documentation requirements.

WHEREAS, members of the United States Armed Forces make enormous sacrifices to preserve the interests and protect the democracy of the United States of America;

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis seeks to reward veterans for their patriotic service and ease the transition from military service to civilian life;

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis seeks to attract a loyal, well-disciplined and well-trained workforce;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that establishing a military veteran hiring preference system under the Civil Service Plan is desirable, serves the public interest, and meets the City’s employment needs by providing a well-trained, disciplined, and loyal workforce.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. The Board of Aldermen hereby finds that service in the United States Armed Forces, as set forth in this ordinance under the definition of “veteran” or “disabled veteran,” is meritorious experience as it instills leadership qualities, confidence, discipline, integrity, teamwork skills and nurtures loyalty and commitment to civic service.

SECTION TWO. Definitions. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms and words are hereby defined:
A. “Active duty or active military duty” means active duty with military pay and allowances in the armed forces, including training or for determining physical fitness and including service in the Reserves or National Guard.

B. “Armed Forces” means the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

C. "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who has been discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America under honorable conditions performed at any time and who has established the existence of a service-connected disability, disability retirement benefits, or pension because of a statute administered by the Department of Veteran Affairs or a military department; or a person who has been awarded a Purple Heart.

D. "Veteran" means any person who has been discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions and performed:

1. In a war; or

2. In a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized; or

3. During the period beginning April 28, 1952, and ending July 1, 1955; or

4. For more than 180 or more consecutive days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955 and before October 15, 1976; or

5. During the period between August 2, 1990 and January 2, 1992; or

6. For more than 180 or more consecutive days, other than for training, any part of which occurred during the period beginning September 11, 2001 and ending on a future date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law.

SECTION THREE. Scoring of Veterans and Disabled Veterans.
A. When using the numerical rating and ranking system to determine the best qualified applicants for a position, an additional five (5) points shall be added to the numerical score for a qualified eligible veteran or an additional ten (10) points shall be added to the numerical score of a qualified eligible disabled veteran.

B. The preference provided to veterans who pass the civil service examination shall only apply for initial employment with the City of St. Louis and such preference is not extended to promotions or to a different position within the City of St. Louis.

C. The maximum number of points that can be awarded under the civil service examination points for a disabled veteran is 110 points.

SECTION FOUR. Documentation. Acceptable documentation must be provided supporting preference or appointment eligibility. The “Member 4” copy of a DD214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty," is preferable, however, the Director of Personnel may promulgate rules and regulations regarding the necessary documentation to effect the intent and purpose of this ordinance.