

Transcript: Senate Bill 173

38th Congress, 1st session (1864) in *A Century of Lawmaking: U. S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875*. Accessed online March 1, 2011, <http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llsb&fileName=038/llsb038.db&recNum=1005>

S. 173.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 16, 1864.

Mr. HOWARD asked, and by unanimous consent obtained, leave to bring in the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and the Militia.

MARCH 21, 1864.

Reported by Mr. HOWARD, with amendments, viz.: Strike out the words within [brackets,] and insert those printed in *italics*.

A BILL

To organize the [invalid corps] *veteran reserves* of the army.

1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2. *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3. That the organization of the military forces of the United
4. States designated as the "invalid corps" is hereby authorized
5. and established as part of the army of the United States, *to*
6. *be known hereafter as the veteran reserves.*
1. SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the organiza-
2. tion of the companies and regiments of the [invalid corps] *vet-*
3. *eran reserves* shall be the same as that provided by law for
4. the regiments of infantry now in the services of the United

5. States, numbered from one to ten.

1. SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That commissioned
2. officers of the [invalid corps] *veteran reserves* shall be ap-
3. pointed by the President, by and with the advice and con-
4. sent of the Senate, but no person will be eligible to appoint-
5. ment until he produce to the President satisfactory proof of
6. having rendered to the United States government meritorious
7. military services, and of disability, unfitting him for active
8. service, arising from wounds received in action, or from dis-
9. ease contracted while in active military service in the armies
10. of the United States

1. SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the rant, pay,
2. And allowance of the commissioned officers, non-commis-
3. sioned officers, privates, musicians and teamsters *in said vet-*
4. *eran reserves* shall be the same as now provided, *or as*
5. *may hereafter be allowed*, by law for infantry officers and
6. soldiers of like grades in the service of the United States.

1. SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the [invalid
2. Corps] *veterans reserves* of the United States army shall con-
3. sist of four brigades of infantry, each brigade containing six
4. regiments, and shall be under the immediate command of
5. such officer as the President may designate.

1. SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the staff of
2. the commanding officer of the [invalid corps] *veteran re-*
3. *serves* of the United States army shall be the same as now
4. allowed by law to the commander of an army corps, and for
5. each brigade commander the same as is now allowed by law
6. to the commander of a division.

1. SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That all enlisted men
2. belonging to the military service of the United States, who

3. may upon proper examination be found unfit for active ser-
4. vice by reason of wounds or disease contracted in the line of
5. duty, but fit for garrison or other light duty, and whose
6. character and military history entitle them to an honorable
7. recognition by the government, shall be transferred by the
8. Secretary of War to the [invalid corps] *veteran reserves*, to
9. serve the remaining portion of their term of enlistment,
10. and any soldier who has received from the proper authority
11. an honorable discharge from the military service of the
12. United States after two years' service during the present
13. rebellion, and all men who have been honorable discharged
14. from the service of the United States on account of disa-
15. bility, and who at the time of presenting themselves for
16. enlistment in the [invalid corps] *veteran reserves* are unfit
17. for active duty, and of good character, may be enlisted in
18. the [invalid corps] *veteran reserves*.

1. SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That any officer, non-
2. commissioned officer or private of the [invalid corps] *veteran*
3. *reserve*, found guilty, by a general court-martial, of drunken-
4. ness, conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline,
5. dishonesty, or disreputable conduct, may, by sentence of such
6. court-martial, according to the nature of the offence, be de-
7. prived of any pension due him or that may become due him
8. for past military services from the government of the United
9. States.

1. SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That no officer shall
2. *hereafter be appointed and commissioned in said veteran re-*
3. *serves until he shall have passed an examination before such*
4. *board of military officers as the President shall designate, sat-*
5. *isfactory to said board, as to his moral character and his com-*

6. *petency to discharge his duties.*