

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss.

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Ryan Costantino
Petitioner

v.

Executive Office of Veterans Services
Respondent

Docket No: VS-23-0013
Date: October 17, 2025

FINAL DECISION - DISMISSAL

When Ryan Costantino applied for veterans' benefits in July 2021, the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) determined he was not eligible because he did not meet the state's definition of "veteran." Subsequently, the legislature passed the HERO Act in 2014, which changed the definition of veteran. EOVS informed Mr. Costantino that because of this change, it was withdrawing its objection to his claim for veterans' benefits. The Town of Bedford has now paid him the benefits to which he is entitled, and according to the parties joint motion to dismiss, Mr. Costantino "will continue to meet the state definition of 'veteran' should re-apply for benefits in the future.

The motion to dismiss is granted and the appeal dismissed as moot because Mr. Constatino has received the relief he requested. 801 CMR 1.01(7)(g)3.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW APPEALS

James P. Rooney

James P. Rooney
First Administrative Magistrate
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