

scribed in the General Militia Law, and regularly enlisted; and when so enlisted shall be considered in the active militia service of the State, and shall serve for the period of three years from the date of enlistment, unless sooner honorably discharged from service, or dishonorably dismissed therefrom for misconduct; all officers and men at the time of the passage of this act, belonging to said respective military organizations, shall constitute a portion of said force in all respects as if already duly enlisted at the time when they respectively became members thereof; the period of their service to be accounted from the date when they so respectively became members; and so long as they continue to be members thereof, they shall be subject to all the rules of military discipline, and to the provisions of the General Militia Law, and of this act; but it is expressly hereby provided, that no person already a member at the time of the passage of this act, and who may then have already served for three years, shall be compelled to re-enlist; any person already a member at the passage of this act, or hereafter enlisting and becoming a member, who may already have served or who may hereafter serve for a period of three years accounting from the date of his enlistment or becoming a member, shall be entitled to a discharge at any time, upon application to the commandant of the regiment or battalion or independent company to which he belongs, if he has performed his duty to that time, and if he has complied with all the obligations, pecuniary or otherwise to his said command assumed by him or lawfully imposed on him; provided, however, that no such discharge shall be granted in case at the time the said individual or the command to which he is attached is engaged in active service or duty, or under orders therefor, or in case the member so applying is in arrest for, or actually undergoing punishment for some offense, or by misconduct or default has made himself liable to punish-

Term of service.

Discharge.