



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 339

LCO No. 2291



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS'
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MINOR AND TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO
STATUTES RELATED TO VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 27-118 of the 2022 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

4 (a) When any veteran or member, as those terms are defined in
5 subsection [(e)] (g) of this section, dies, not having sufficient estate to
6 pay the necessary expenses of the veteran's or member's last sickness
7 and funeral expenses, as determined by the [commissioner]
8 Commissioner of Veterans Affairs after consultation with the probate
9 court for the district in which the veteran or member resided, the state
10 shall pay the sum of one thousand eight hundred dollars toward such
11 funeral expenses.

12 (b) Burial shall be in [some] a cemetery or plot not used exclusively
13 for the burial of the pauper dead.

14 (c) No amount shall be paid for funeral expenses unless claim therefor
15 is made [within one year from] not later than one year after the date of
16 death, except that in cases of death occurring abroad [,] such claim may
17 be made within one year after the remains of [such] the veteran or
18 member have been interred in this country. No provision of this section
19 shall prevent the payment of the sum under subsection (a) of this section
20 for funeral expenses on account of the burial of [such] the veteran or
21 member being made outside the limits of this state.

22 (d) Upon satisfactory proof to the commissioner, by the person who
23 has paid or provided for the funeral expenses [to the commissioner] of
24 a deceased veteran, of the identity of the [deceased] veteran, the time
25 and place of the [deceased's] veteran's death and burial and the
26 approval thereof by the commissioner, the sum under subsection (a) of
27 this section shall be paid by the Comptroller to [the] such person who
28 has paid or provided for the funeral expenses.

29 (e) (1) Upon satisfactory proof to the commissioner, by the person
30 who has paid or provided for the funeral [or burial expense to the
31 commissioner] expenses of a deceased member, of the identity of the
32 [deceased] member, the time and place of the [deceased] member's
33 death and burial and the approval thereof by the commissioner, the sum
34 [of one thousand eight hundred dollars] under subsection (a) of this
35 section shall be paid by the Comptroller to the person who has paid or
36 provided for the funeral [or burial expense, or upon assignment by such
37 person, to the funeral director who has provided the funeral] expenses.

38 (2) The person who has paid or provided for the funeral [or burial
39 expense] expenses of a deceased member shall provide to the
40 commissioner (A) an affidavit stating (i) when the [deceased] member
41 served, (ii) where the [deceased] member served, (iii) the unit in which
42 the [deceased] member served, and (iv) the capacity in which the
43 [deceased] member served; (B) any available corroborating witness
44 affidavits; (C) any available official documentation of service; and (D)
45 any other documents supporting the affidavit.

46 (f) Whenever the Comptroller has lawfully paid any sum toward the

47 funeral expenses of any deceased veteran or member and it afterwards
48 appears that the [deceased] veteran or member left any estate, the
49 Comptroller may present a claim on behalf of the state against the estate
50 of such [deceased] veteran or member for the sum so paid, and the claim
51 shall be a preferred claim against such estate and shall be paid to the
52 Treasurer, [of the state.] The commissioner, upon the advice of the
53 Attorney General, may make application for administration upon the
54 estate of any such [deceased] veteran or member if no other person
55 authorized by law makes such application within sixty days after such
56 payment has been made by the Comptroller.

57 (g) As used in this section, (1) "veteran" has the same meaning as
58 provided in section 27-103, as amended by this act, (2) "member" means
59 any person who served in the Hmong Laotian special guerilla units,
60 which units served in the United States secret war in the Kingdom of
61 Laos during the Vietnam War, and (3) "funeral expenses" means (A) the
62 cash advances paid by the funeral director and the cost of funeral
63 services and funeral merchandise, (B) the cost of burial, cremation or
64 disposition, and (C) the cost of publication of an obituary. "Funeral
65 merchandise" includes, but is not limited to, alternative containers,
66 caskets, urns, vaults and outer burial containers.

67 Sec. 2. Section 27-82 of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

69 The [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs is authorized
70 to administer the separation allowances provided for by this chapter
71 and enforce the provisions relating thereto. The commissioner shall
72 determine the amount of such separation allowances to be paid and
73 shall certify to the Comptroller the amounts to be paid monthly. The
74 Comptroller shall draw his orders on the Treasurer in payment thereof.
75 The commissioner may apply the provisions of sections 27-80 to 27-85,
76 inclusive, to any person who enters the military or naval service of the
77 United States through the provisions of any system of selective draft
78 adopted by the federal government.

79 Sec. 3. Section 27-86 of the general statutes is repealed and the

80 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

81 Whenever the provisions of this chapter relating to separation
82 allowances become operative through the calling of the National Guard
83 or other forces into active service, the [commissioner] Commissioner of
84 Veterans Affairs shall pay such allowances as are to be paid out of any
85 funds which the state may have available for such purposes and, if no
86 funds are available, the State Treasurer is authorized to borrow, in the
87 name of the state, on notes, such funds as are necessary to administer
88 such provisions. In either case said commissioner shall certify to the
89 General Assembly at its next regular session the amount expended, or,
90 if such provisions are at that time operative, shall certify to the amount
91 expended under them up to and including the first Wednesday of
92 December preceding the convening of the General Assembly, and in
93 either case the General Assembly shall appropriate sufficient funds to
94 cover such expenditures; and, in the event of the existence of
95 circumstances making such provisions still operative, the General
96 Assembly shall take the necessary steps to provide for the requisite
97 expense.

98 Sec. 4. Section 27-102m of the general statutes is repealed and the
99 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

100 The [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, in his or her
101 discretion, shall investigate all complaints made to the commissioner
102 with respect to the conduct or treatment of veterans, their spouses, or
103 eligible dependents and family members receiving services under this
104 chapter, or any program administered by the [department] Department
105 of Veterans Affairs and for such purpose shall have power to compel
106 the attendance of witnesses under oath. If upon the completion of such
107 investigation, the commissioner finds that any veteran, spouse or
108 eligible dependent has not received proper care or has been ill treated
109 or abused by any officer or employee, the commissioner shall, in his or
110 her discretion, cause the offender to be prosecuted, disciplined or
111 dismissed and shall order such remedial action as the commissioner
112 deems necessary to eliminate the condition. If upon such investigation,

113 the commissioner finds that no adequate grounds exist for such
114 complaint, the commissioner shall certify that fact to the officer or
115 employee involved and cause such officer's or employee's record to be
116 cleared of the incident.

117 Sec. 5. Section 27-106 of the general statutes is repealed and the
118 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

119 (a) The [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall adopt
120 and enforce such rules as may be necessary to ensure order, enforce
121 discipline and preserve the health and ensure the comfort of the
122 residents in the Veterans Residential Services facility and patients in the
123 Healthcare Center, and shall discipline or dismiss any officer or resident
124 of said facility or patient in the Healthcare Center who violates such
125 rules. The commissioner shall (1) appoint, subject to the provisions of
126 chapter 67, such officers and employees as are necessary for the
127 administration of the affairs of said facility and the Healthcare Center,
128 (2) prescribe the relative rank, if any, of such officers and employees,
129 and (3) commission each such officer, who shall wear such uniform, if
130 any, as is prescribed by the commissioner.

131 (b) The chief fiscal officer shall submit a semiannual plain language
132 report to each resident of the Veterans Residential Services facility and
133 patient of the Healthcare Center detailing the manner in which the
134 institutional general welfare fund was used over the previous six
135 months to directly benefit veterans, said facility or the Healthcare
136 Center. Such report shall include a prominently displayed statement
137 encouraging residents to submit suggestions for projects to be funded
138 by the institutional general welfare fund and a form for such
139 submissions.

140 (c) The chief fiscal officer shall submit an itemized list of expenditures
141 made from the institutional general welfare fund to the commissioner
142 at intervals not greater than two months. Such list shall include all such
143 expenditures made during the two-month period preceding its
144 submission. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-56, the
145 commissioner shall prescribe procedures to limit and specify the uses

146 for which expenditures may be made from the institutional general
147 welfare fund so that only expenditures that, in the opinion of the
148 commissioner and the [board of trustees] Board of Trustees for the
149 [department] Department of Veterans Affairs appointed pursuant to
150 section 27-102n, directly benefit veterans, the Veterans Residential
151 Services facility or the Healthcare Center are permitted.

152 (d) In addition to the estimate of expenditure requirements required
153 under section 4-77, the commissioner shall submit an accounting of all
154 planned expenditures for the next fiscal year from the institutional
155 general welfare fund to the joint standing committee of the General
156 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and
157 the budgets of state agencies at the time such estimate is submitted.

158 (e) The Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall annually hold suitable
159 exercises in the Veterans Residential Services facility on November
160 eleventh recognizing resident veterans for their military service.

161 Sec. 6. Section 27-109 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
162 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
163 *October 1, 2022*):

164 Any hospital, upon request of the [commissioner] Commissioner of
165 Veterans Affairs, shall furnish any veteran, determined by the
166 commissioner to be entitled to admission thereto, necessary food,
167 clothing, care and treatment therein at the expense of the state, unless
168 other funds or means of payment are available, and such veteran shall
169 have preference for admission into such hospital. As used in this section,
170 "veteran" has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103, as
171 amended by this act.

172 Sec. 7. Section 27-119a of the general statutes is repealed and the
173 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

174 The [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall, upon
175 application made by the chief executive authority of the town, city or
176 borough wherein the deceased is buried, cause a metal marker and flag

177 holder to be placed on the grave of any person who, in time of war,
178 served in the military or naval forces of the English colonies in America,
179 prior to 1776, or who served in the military or naval forces of the United
180 States in the Revolutionary War, which grave is not so marked.

181 Sec. 8. Section 27-120 of the general statutes is repealed and the
182 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

183 If any person who, in time of war, served in the military or naval
184 forces of the English colonies in America, prior to 1776, or of the state of
185 Connecticut or in the armed forces of the United States, and was
186 credited to said colonies, state or the United States, died during such
187 service of disease or wounds, or was killed in action, died in prison or
188 was lost at sea, and whose body was never brought home for interment,
189 or who was reported missing in action and has not been heard from, the
190 [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall, upon proper
191 application, with satisfactory proof, made by the chief executive
192 authority of the municipality of which the deceased was a resident, as
193 to his identity and honorable service, cause to be erected in any cemetery
194 or public place in such municipality, at a cost to the state of not more
195 than fifty dollars, a marker or soldier's headstone, having inscribed
196 thereon the name of such person, the organization to which he
197 belonged, and the place of his death or burial or when he was reported
198 as missing in action or lost at sea.

199 Sec. 9. Section 27-121 of the general statutes is repealed and the
200 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

201 If the chief executive authority of any municipality which had as
202 residents several veterans who were killed or lost as described in section
203 27-120, as amended by this act, and to whose memory markers or
204 headstones have not already been erected, prefers a memorial stone or
205 plaque with the names of all such veterans inscribed thereon, erected in
206 a public place or cemetery in such municipality, the [commissioner]
207 Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall cause such a suitable memorial
208 to be erected in such municipality, which memorial shall be of such
209 design and material and of such cost as the commissioner determines. If

210 any municipality, organization or person contributes toward the
211 erection of such memorial, the location of the same shall be determined
212 by the commissioner and a committee of two persons appointed by the
213 municipality, organization or individuals making such contribution.
214 Any such memorial may include the names of any veterans who died or
215 were killed in action as described in [said] section 27-120 and whose
216 bodies have been brought home for interment whenever the
217 municipality wherein such memorial is to be erected, or any
218 organization or person, agrees with the commissioner to share
219 proportionately the cost of erecting such memorial.

220 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 27-122b of the 2022 supplement to
221 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
222 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

223 (b) (1) Any veteran may, by letter or other communication addressed
224 to the [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, or by will,
225 request that upon his or her death his or her body be buried in a
226 veterans' cemetery established pursuant to section 27-122a, as amended
227 by this act, or (2) the spouse or other next of kin may apply to the
228 commissioner to have the body of such veteran buried in said veterans'
229 cemetery, and in either case such request shall be granted.

230 Sec. 11. Section 27-125 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
231 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
232 *October 1, 2022*):

233 Any veteran who is a citizen of this state and who, through disability
234 or other causes incident to service in the armed forces in time of war, is
235 in need of temporary financial assistance may be provided for by the
236 [commissioner] Commissioner of Veterans Affairs by a method similar
237 to that provided in section 27-82, as amended by this act, the amount
238 and continuance of such assistance to be discretionary with the
239 commissioner. The widow, widower and each child, parent, brother or
240 sister of any member of the armed forces, who died while in such active
241 service, may be assisted by the commissioner if such person or persons
242 are without sufficient means of support by reason of the death of such

243 member of the armed forces. In carrying out his or her duties under the
244 provisions of this section, the commissioner is directed to cooperate
245 with such federal agencies as may aid in securing prompt and suitable
246 treatment, care and relief of any such member of the armed forces or his
247 or her dependents. The records of the agencies of the state shall be
248 placed at the disposal of the commissioner and such agencies are
249 directed to cooperate with and to assist the commissioner in carrying
250 out his or her duties. As used in this section, "veteran" has the same
251 meaning as provided in section 27-103, as amended by this act.

252 Sec. 12. Section 27-117 of the general statutes is repealed and the
253 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

254 Any person who has in his or her possession or control any property
255 of any person applying for or receiving aid from the Soldiers, Sailors
256 and Marines Fund or the [department] Department of Veterans Affairs,
257 or who is indebted to such applicant or recipient or has knowledge of
258 any property belonging to him or her, and any officer who has control
259 of the books and accounts of any corporation which has possession or
260 control of any property belonging to any person applying for or
261 receiving such aid or is indebted to him or her, shall, upon presentation
262 by the disbursing officer thereof or any person deputized by him or her
263 of a certificate signed by him or her, stating that such applicant or
264 recipient has applied for or is receiving aid from said fund or the
265 department, make full disclosure to such disbursing officer or deputy of
266 any such property or indebtedness. Such disclosure may be obtained in
267 like manner of the property or indebtedness of any person liable for the
268 support of any such applicant or recipient.

269 Sec. 13. Subsection (c) of section 27-24 of the general statutes is
270 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
271 *1, 2022*):

272 (c) The Adjutant General shall designate either the assistant adjutant
273 general for the Connecticut Army National Guard or the assistant
274 adjutant general for the Connecticut Air National Guard to serve as
275 administrative assistant and deputy to the Adjutant General and as

276 deputy chief of staff to the Governor. Such assistant adjutant general (1)
277 shall perform all of the duties of the Adjutant General in his absence,
278 during his inability or by his direction and (2) shall devote all of his time,
279 during the office hours of the [department] Military Department, to the
280 duties of his office. The assistant adjutant general not so designated shall
281 perform such duties, consistent with his grade and position, as the
282 Adjutant General shall direct.

283 Sec. 14. Section 27-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the
284 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

285 The Adjutant General shall appoint a property and procurement
286 officer who shall be the assistant of the Adjutant General in the care of
287 all military property and who shall hold office at the pleasure of the
288 Adjutant General. He shall devote all of his time, during the office hours
289 of the [department] Military Department, to the duties of his office.

290 Sec. 15. Section 27-31 of the general statutes is repealed and the
291 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

292 The Adjutant General shall appoint such number of employees,
293 subject to the provisions of chapter 67 and section 4-40, as may be
294 required to perform adequately the duties required of the [department]
295 Military Department. Employees in the [Military Department]
296 department, not in the classified service, shall serve [during] at the
297 pleasure of the Adjutant General and shall perform such duties as may
298 be assigned to them.

299 Sec. 16. Section 27-102o of the general statutes is repealed and the
300 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

301 The Department of [Veterans'] Veterans Affairs may, subject to any
302 limitations otherwise imposed by law, receive and accept on behalf of
303 the state any funds that may be offered or that may become available
304 from federal grants or appropriations, private gifts, donations or
305 bequests, or any other source and may expend such funds for the
306 purpose of financing, in whole or in part and on behalf of the state, the

307 construction of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at
308 Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

309 Sec. 17. Section 27-102p of the general statutes is repealed and the
310 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

311 (a) Not later than July 15, 2007, and annually thereafter, each state
312 agency or municipality that provides benefits to veterans, as defined in
313 section 27-103, as amended by this act, shall submit a report to the
314 Commissioner of [Veterans'] Veterans Affairs that includes a
315 description of each type of benefit provided to veterans, the value of
316 such benefit and the number of veterans to whom such benefit was
317 provided, for the twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of the
318 same year. The commissioner shall compile the data in such report.

319 (b) Not later than August 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, the
320 Commissioner of [Veterans'] Veterans Affairs shall submit a report of
321 the data compiled pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, for the
322 twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of the same year, to the
323 Military Department and the joint standing committee of the General
324 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety, in
325 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall
326 specify the total number of veterans receiving benefits and the value of
327 such benefits by category of benefit and in total for such period.

328 Sec. 18. Subsection (c) of section 27-122a of the general statutes is
329 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
330 *1, 2022*):

331 (c) The land transferred to the commission under subsections (a) and
332 (b) of this section and not transferred to the Commissioner of Mental
333 Health and Addiction Services and the Connecticut Valley Hospital
334 shall be used by the Commissioner of [Veterans'] Veterans Affairs for
335 the establishment and maintenance of a veterans' cemetery.

336 Sec. 19. Subsection (b) of section 14-20d of the 2022 supplement to the
337 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

338 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

339 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, at the request of any
340 veteran or member of the armed forces who received a campaign medal,
341 issue special registration marker plates to indicate service during a
342 period of war. Such plates shall bear the words "(Name of War) Veteran"
343 and shall be designed in consultation with the Commissioner of
344 [Veteran] Veterans Affairs. The plates shall expire and be renewed as
345 provided in section 14-22. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall
346 charge a fee for such plates, which fee shall cover the entire cost of
347 making such plates and shall be in addition to the fee for registration of
348 such motor vehicle. No use shall be made of such plates except as official
349 registration marker plates.

350 Sec. 20. Subsection (c) of section 51-49h of the 2022 supplement to the
351 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
352 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

353 (c) For purposes of this section: (1) "Armed forces" means the United
354 States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force; (2)
355 "veteran" has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103, as
356 amended by this act; and (3) "military service" shall be service during
357 World War II, December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946; the Korean
358 hostilities, June 27, 1950, to October 27, 1953; and the Vietnam era,
359 January 1, 1964, to July 1, 1975, and shall include service as a prisoner of
360 war.

361 Sec. 21. Subsection (c) of section 27-103 of the 2022 supplement to the
362 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
363 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

364 (c) Not later than October 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Veterans
365 Affairs shall establish a Qualifying Review Board, which shall review
366 applications of veterans submitted under subsection (d) of this section.
367 Said board shall be part of the Executive Department and shall consist
368 of five voting members who, by education or experience, shall be
369 knowledgeable of veterans benefits and programs and who shall have a

370 demonstrated interest in the concerns of veterans. A majority of the
371 members of the board shall be veterans.

372 (1) The membership of the board shall consist of the following
373 members:

374 (A) One member appointed by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs
375 in consultation with the chairperson of the Board of Trustees for the
376 Department of Veterans Affairs, [Board of Trustees,] who shall be a
377 member of said board;

378 (B) The manager of the Office of Advocacy and Assistance within the
379 Department of Veterans Affairs, [Office of Advocacy and Assistance,] or
380 the manager's designee; and

381 (C) Three members appointed by the Commissioner of Veterans
382 Affairs.

383 (2) All initial appointments to the board shall be made not later than
384 December 1, 2021, and shall terminate on November 31, 2023, or
385 November 31, 2024, as applicable, regardless of when the initial
386 appointment was made. Any member of the board may serve more than
387 one term.

388 (3) Members first appointed shall have the following terms: (A) The
389 member of the Board of Trustees for the Department of Veterans Affairs
390 [Board of Trustees] and the manager of the Office of Advocacy and
391 Assistance within the Department of Veterans Affairs, [Office of
392 Advocacy and Assistance,] or the manager's designee, shall initially
393 serve a term of three years, and (B) the three members appointed by the
394 Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall initially serve a term of two
395 years. Members shall serve a term of four years thereafter. Members
396 shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.

397 (4) Any vacancy shall be filled by the Commissioner of Veterans
398 Affairs. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be
399 filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

400 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-9a,
401 the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall select the chairperson of the
402 board from among the members of the board. Such chairperson shall
403 schedule the first meeting of the board, which shall be held not later
404 than January 1, 2022.

405 (6) A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the
406 transaction of any business.

407 (7) The members of the board shall serve without compensation.

408 (8) The board shall meet at least monthly or as often as deemed
409 necessary by the chairperson based on the number of applications
410 pending before the board.

411 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 27-20 of the general statutes is
412 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
413 *1, 2022*):

414 (a) The Adjutant General shall make such returns and reports to such
415 officers as may be prescribed by the United States Department of
416 Defense in regulations pertaining to the National Guard, at such times
417 and in such form as prescribed. The Adjutant General shall (1) keep the
418 service records of all officers and enlisted personnel, (2) issue authorized
419 service medals, ribbons and documents, (3) (A) generate and maintain
420 all records and documents required by state law or regulations
421 thereunder, and (B) process requests for such records pursuant to the
422 state Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and (4)
423 (A) generate and maintain all records and documents required by
424 federal law or regulations thereunder, and (B) process requests for such
425 records pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act of 1976, 5
426 USC 552, as amended from time to time.

427 Sec. 23. Section 27-49 of the general statutes is repealed and the
428 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

429 Officers of the National Guard and naval militia shall be appointed
430 by the Governor, subject to the procedure prescribed in regulations of

431 the United States Department of Defense relating to the National Guard
432 and naval militia. The rule of seniority shall be followed when
433 practicable. Only such officers shall be commissioned in the National
434 Guard and naval militia as have successfully passed the tests and
435 examinations as to physical, moral and professional fitness prescribed
436 by the laws and regulations of the United States relating to the
437 qualifications of National Guard or naval militia officers. Officers of the
438 organized militia, as provided for in section 27-2, shall be appointed in
439 accordance with regulations approved by the Governor.

440 Sec. 24. Subsection (d) of section 1-219 of the general statutes is
441 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
442 *1, 2022*):

443 (d) The provisions of this section concerning the maintenance and
444 recording of United States Department of Defense documents shall not
445 apply to the State Library Board or the State Librarian.

446 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 8-106 of the general statutes is
447 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
448 *1, 2022*):

449 (a) "Persons engaged in national defense activities" includes persons
450 in the military service of the United States; employees of the United
451 States Department of Defense; and workers engaged or to be engaged
452 in activities connected with and essential to national defense; and
453 includes the families of the aforesaid persons who are living with them.

454 Sec. 26. Subsection (b) of section 14-36h of the 2022 supplement to the
455 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
456 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

457 (b) If any person does not reside in any state, territory or possession
458 of the United States because such person is on active military duty with
459 the United States Armed Forces, and such person's home state of record
460 is Connecticut, as reflected in the records of the United States
461 Department of Defense, United States Department of Homeland

462 Security or any federal department under which the United States Coast
463 Guard operates, such person may obtain a Connecticut operator's
464 license or identity card, provided such person: (1) Does not have an
465 operator's license or identity card issued by another state, territory or
466 possession of the United States, or surrenders any such license or
467 identity card; (2) has a current APO or FPO mailing address; (3)
468 designates such person's home address as 60 State Street, Wethersfield,
469 CT 06161; and (4) meets all other requirements for obtaining an
470 operator's license or identity card in this state.

471 Sec. 27. Section 17a-453d of the general statutes is repealed and the
472 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

473 The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in
474 collaboration with the Department of Children and Families and the
475 Department of Veterans Affairs, shall provide behavioral health
476 services, on a transitional basis, for the dependents and any member of
477 any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States who has
478 been called to active service in the armed forces of the state or the United
479 States for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.
480 Such transitional services shall be provided when no United States
481 Department of Defense coverage for such services is available or such
482 member is not eligible for such services through the United States
483 Department of Defense, until an approved application is received from
484 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and coverage is
485 available to such member and such member's dependents.

486 Sec. 28. Subsection (b) of section 20-327f of the general statutes is
487 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
488 *1, 2022*):

489 (b) With respect to a contract for the sale of a one-to-four family
490 residential real property, if the seller provides written notice to the
491 purchaser, prior to, or upon, entering into the contract, of the availability
492 of information concerning environmental matters from the [federal]
493 United States Environmental Protection Agency, the National Response
494 Center, the United States Department of Defense and third-party

495 providers, the seller and any real estate licensee shall be deemed to have
496 fully satisfied any duty to disclose environmental matters concerning
497 properties other than the property that is the subject of the contract.

498 Sec. 29. Subsection (b) of section 22a-337 of the general statutes is
499 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
500 *1, 2022*):

501 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection is
502 designated as the shore erosion agency of the state for the purpose of
503 cooperating with the Beach Erosion Board of the United States
504 Department of Defense, as provided for in Section 2 of the "River and
505 Harbor Act" adopted by Congress and approved July 3, 1930, and
506 known as H.R. Number 11781 of the second session of the 71st Congress.
507 Said commissioner shall carry out investigations and studies of
508 conditions along the shore line, harbors, rivers and islands within the
509 territorial waters of the state in order to promote and encourage the
510 healthful recreation of its citizens and with a view to devising and
511 projecting economical and effective methods and works for preventing
512 and correcting shore erosion and damage to public and private property
513 therefrom and to prevent inundation of improved property by storms,
514 erosion and ravages of the sea.

515 Sec. 30. Section 5-224 of the general statutes is repealed and the
516 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

517 Any veteran who served in time of war, if such veteran is not eligible
518 for disability compensation or pension from the [United States] United
519 States Department of Veterans Affairs, or the spouse of such veteran
520 who by reason of such veteran's disability is unable to pursue gainful
521 employment, or the unmarried surviving spouse of such veteran, and if
522 such person has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any
523 examination held for an original appointment for the purpose of
524 establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance with
525 subsection (d) of section 5-228, shall have five points added to his or her
526 earned rating. Any such veteran, or the spouse of such veteran who by
527 reason of such veteran's disability is unable to pursue gainful

528 employment, or the unmarried surviving spouse of such veteran, if such
529 person is eligible for such disability compensation or pension and if
530 such person has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any
531 such examination held for an original appointment for the purpose of
532 establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance with
533 subsection (d) of section 5-228, shall have ten points added to his or her
534 earned rating. Any veteran who has served in a military action for which
535 such person received or was entitled to receive a campaign badge or
536 expeditionary medal, shall have five points added to his or her earned
537 rating if such person has attained at least the minimum earned rating on
538 any such examination held for an original appointment for the purpose
539 of establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance with
540 subsection (d) of section 5-228 and such person is not otherwise eligible
541 to receive additional points pursuant to this section. Any person who is
542 a member of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, as amended
543 by this act, and who is in the final year of an enlistment contract with
544 any branch of the armed forces shall have five points added to his or her
545 earned rating if such person has attained at least the minimum earned
546 rating on any such examination held for an original appointment for the
547 purpose of establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance
548 with subsection (d) of section 5-228. Names of any such persons shall be
549 placed upon the candidate lists in the order of such augmented ratings.
550 Credits shall be based upon examinations with a possible rating of one
551 hundred points.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-118
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-82
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-86
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-102m
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-106
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-109
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-119a
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-120
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	27-121

Sec. 10	October 1, 2022	27-122b(b)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2022	27-125
Sec. 12	October 1, 2022	27-117
Sec. 13	October 1, 2022	27-24(c)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2022	27-25
Sec. 15	October 1, 2022	27-31
Sec. 16	October 1, 2022	27-102o
Sec. 17	October 1, 2022	27-102p
Sec. 18	October 1, 2022	27-122a(c)
Sec. 19	October 1, 2022	14-20d(b)
Sec. 20	October 1, 2022	51-49h(c)
Sec. 21	October 1, 2022	27-103(c)
Sec. 22	October 1, 2022	27-20(a)
Sec. 23	October 1, 2022	27-49
Sec. 24	October 1, 2022	1-219(d)
Sec. 25	October 1, 2022	8-106(a)
Sec. 26	October 1, 2022	14-36h(b)
Sec. 27	October 1, 2022	17a-453d
Sec. 28	October 1, 2022	20-327f(b)
Sec. 29	October 1, 2022	22a-337(b)
Sec. 30	October 1, 2022	5-224

Statement of Purpose:

To make minor, conforming, clarifying and technical revisions to certain veterans' and military affairs statutes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]