



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 366**

January Session, 2011

Senate Bill No. 371

*Senate, April 5, 2011*

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. MAYNARD of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INDICATION OF A PERSON'S STATUS AS A VETERAN ON A MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE AND IDENTITY CARD.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-36h of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 (a) Each motor vehicle operator's license issued by the  
4 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in accordance with section 14-36 and  
5 each identity card issued by said commissioner in accordance with  
6 section 1-1h shall contain the following: (1) The person's full legal  
7 name; (2) the person's date of birth; (3) the person's gender; (4) the  
8 person's height and eye color; (5) the person's assigned operator's  
9 license or identity card number; (6) the person's address of principal  
10 residence in this state; (7) the person's signature; [and] (8) the person's  
11 color photograph or digital image; and (9) if applicable, the person's  
12 status as a veteran, as provided in subsection (d) of this section.

13 (b) The commissioner shall provide that each such license or  
14 identity card document contains physical security features designed to  
15 prevent tampering, counterfeiting or duplication of the document.

16 (c) Each such document shall also contain one or more machine-  
17 readable technology feature or component, including, but not limited  
18 to, a bar code or magnetic strip.

19 (d) The commissioner shall, upon request of any person who is a  
20 veteran, indicate such person's status as a veteran on any motor  
21 vehicle operator's license or identity card issued to such person,  
22 provided the commissioner verifies such person's status as a veteran  
23 from a military discharge document presented by such person. Any  
24 motor vehicle operator's license or identity card issued to such person  
25 by the commissioner shall indicate, based on the information  
26 contained in such military discharge document, (1) that such person is  
27 a veteran who performed service in time of war, or (2) if such person is  
28 a veteran who did not perform service in time of war, that such person  
29 is a veteran.

30 [(d)] (e) As used in this section: [, the term "full] (1) "Full legal name"  
31 means the most complete version of the name that appears on a  
32 person's certificate of birth, official passport or other document or  
33 documents accepted by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to verify  
34 the person's identity, unless the person presents a marriage license or  
35 certificate, a certificate of civil union, a divorce decree or an order of a  
36 court of competent jurisdiction pertaining to a permanent change of  
37 the person's name; and (2) "veteran" and "service in time of war" have  
38 the same meanings as provided in subsection (a) of section 27-103.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	14-36h

VA

Joint Favorable C/R

TRA

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 13 \$</b>	<b>FY 14 \$</b>
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Cost	None	250,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There is a one-time cost of \$250,000 in FY 14 to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for programming an interface system between the driver's licensing database system, the license card production system, and the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA). The interface system between DMV and DVA is required in order for DMV to verify the status of veterans.

The costs are anticipated to occur in FY 14 after necessary changes are completed to comply with the federal REAL-ID Act requirements. These changes to accommodate REAL-ID are expected to be finalized by July 1, 2013. Therefore any costs that would occur to implement an identifier on driver's licenses or DMV identification cards are not anticipated until FY 14.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 371*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE INDICATION OF A PERSON'S STATUS AS A VETERAN ON A MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE AND IDENTITY CARD.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the motor vehicles commissioner to include a person's status as a veteran, if applicable, on his or her driver's license or identity card. The person must request to have this status included and provide as proof a military discharge document (DD Form 214 or similar forms). The commissioner must verify the person's status from the discharge document.

The bill also requires the license or identity card to indicate, based on the military discharge document, that the person is (1) a veteran with service in time of war or (2) a veteran. Under state law, a "veteran" is an individual honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from active service in the U.S. Armed Forces. Service in time of war means at least 90 days active service in the U.S. Armed Forces during a statutorily defined period of war, unless the veteran was separated earlier by war (a U.S. Veterans' Administration-rated service-connected disability or the war lasted less than 90 days).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

**BACKGROUND**

By law, "armed forces" means the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force and any of their reserve components, including the Connecticut National Guard when under federal service.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 10 Nay 0 (03/08/2011)

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 36 Nay 0 (03/18/2011)