



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 225

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6316

House of Representatives, March 31, 2021

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EVALUATION OF MILITARY TRAINING EVALUATION APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE LABOR DEPARTMENT.

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

1 Section 1. Section 31-22u of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

3 Any member of the armed forces or National Guard or any veteran,
4 within [two] five years of such veteran's discharge from the armed
5 forces, may submit an application for military training evaluation to the
6 Labor Department program of apprentice training set forth in section
7 31-22q. Such application shall include (1) evidence of satisfactory
8 completion of a program or course of instruction as part of military
9 training that is equivalent in content and quality to that required for a
10 specific trade in this state, and (2) if such applicant is a veteran, such
11 veteran's military discharge document or a certified copy thereof. The
12 Labor Commissioner, the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs and the
13 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioners'
14 designees, shall evaluate any such application and determine whether

15 the applicant's military training may be substituted for all or part of the
 16 term of an apprenticeship program registered with the Labor
 17 Department for a specific trade. If the [commissioner determines]
 18 commissioners, or the commissioners' designees, jointly determine that
 19 the applicant's military training is equivalent to the training required for
 20 completion of such apprenticeship program, the [commissioner] Labor
 21 Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall issue such
 22 applicant a recommendation for review by the appropriate examining
 23 board established under section 20-331. Presentation of such
 24 recommendation, pursuant to section 20-333, shall allow such applicant
 25 to sit for any licensure examination without participation in an
 26 apprenticeship program. If the [commissioner determines]
 27 commissioners, or the commissioners' designees, jointly determine that
 28 the applicant's military training is equivalent to part of the training
 29 required for completion of an apprenticeship program, such applicant's
 30 hours of qualified military training, as determined jointly by the
 31 [commissioner] commissioners, or the commissioners' designees, shall
 32 be deducted from the hours of apprenticeship training required for the
 33 specific trade provided (A) such applicant completes the minimum
 34 number of hours of apprenticeship training required under federal law,
 35 and (B) prior to implementation of this provision, the Labor Department
 36 obtains concurrence with such provision from the federal office of
 37 apprenticeship pursuant to 29 CFR 29.13(b)(9). For the purposes of this
 38 section, (i) "veteran" means any person who was discharged or released
 39 under conditions other than dishonorable from active service in the
 40 armed forces, (ii) "armed forces" has the same meaning as provided in
 41 section 27-103, and (iii) "military discharge document" has the same
 42 meaning as provided in section 1-219.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2021	31-22u

VA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill does not result in a fiscal impact to the Departments of Labor, Consumer Protection, or Veteran's Affairs related to the evaluation of military training applications as the agencies currently have the expertise to do so.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6316*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE EVALUATION OF MILITARY TRAINING EVALUATION APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE LABOR DEPARTMENT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill extends, from two to five years, the period of time after a veteran's service discharge during which he or she may apply to the Department of Labor (DOL) for a military training evaluation. Under current law, the DOL commissioner must determine if the applicant's military training partially or entirely satisfies certain apprenticeship programs' training requirements (see BACKGROUND). The bill instead requires him to make these determinations jointly with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and Department of Consumer Protection commissioners. It also allows each commissioner to appoint a designee to make the determinations on his or her behalf.

Under existing law, a "veteran" is anyone discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable from active service in the armed forces (U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force and any of their reserve components, including the Connecticut National Guard performing duty under Title 32 of federal law).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

BACKGROUND***Military Training Evaluations***

Certain occupational examining boards generally require applicants to complete apprenticeship programs before sitting for licensing examinations. Armed forces or National Guard members and certain veterans may to apply to the DOL apprentice training program for a military training evaluation.

If the applicant's military training is equivalent to completing an apprenticeship program, the commissioner must issue the applicant a "recommendation for review." A recommendation for review allows the applicant, even if he or she has not completed an apprenticeship program, to sit for licensing examinations required by certain boards, including the:

1. Electrical Work Board;
2. Heating, Piping, Cooling and Sheet Metal Work Board;
3. Plumbing and Piping Work Board;
4. Elevator Installation, Repair and Maintenance Board;
5. Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Board; and
6. Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Board.

If the applicant's military training is deemed equivalent to part of an apprenticeship program's required training, the applicant's qualified hours of military training must be deducted from the required apprentice training hours if certain federal requirements are satisfied.

A recommendation for review additionally waives, depending on the trade, the (1) \$90 or \$150 application fee and (2) initial \$150 or \$120 contractor's license fee (CGS §§ 20-333 & 20-355).

Related Bills

SB 413, favorably reported by the Veterans' Affairs Committee, requires 27 state agencies and departments to waive initial occupational licensing fees for veterans.

HB 5592, favorably reported by the Veterans' Affairs Committee, expands the general definition of "veteran" under state law to include those released with an other than honorable discharge based on specified qualifying conditions (e.g., military sexual trauma experience, a qualifying mental health condition, sexual orientation, or gender

identity or expression), as determined under the bill. In doing so, it expands eligibility for any statutory programs or benefits that reference this definition.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/18/2021)