



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
MILITARY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
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360 BROAD STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105-3706

General Law Committee  
Public Hearing  
February 23, 2021

Testimony in Support of

H.B. 6445, "An Act Expanding Economic Opportunity in Occupations Licensed by the Department of Consumer Protection."

Senator Maroney, Representative D'Agustino, and distinguished members of the General Law Committee, I write to you in support of Governor's Bill, H.B. 6445, "An Act Expanding Economic Opportunity in Occupations Licensed by the Department of Consumer Protection." As the Adjutant General for the State of Connecticut, I serve as the head of the Military Department and command the armed forces of the state including the National Guard. In that capacity, I am responsible for the well-being of my members and their families.

H.B. 6445 seeks to ease the burden on new Connecticut residents and military spouses relocating to Connecticut pursuant to military orders in acquiring an occupational license issued by the Department of Consumer Protection who already hold a similar occupational license from another state. Military spouse occupational license reciprocity has long been an initiative of the Department of Defense as it contributes to service members' quality of life and retention in the armed forces. Appropriately recognizing the nature of active duty military service, the bill does not require that a military spouse become a Connecticut resident in order for the bill's provisions to apply. H.B. 6445 does not exclusively apply to military spouses. The bill's provisions also apply to any person who establishes residency in Connecticut. I support this bill on both accounts as it benefits military families and broader workforce development throughout the state.

The Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) specifically stands to benefit from this bill in two ways. First, though most members of the CTNG serve-part time, approximately 25% of our 5,000 strong total force serves in a full-time capacity. Whether an active duty posting or position of federal civilian employment in the CTNG's full-time force, H.B. 6445 may help attract qualified out of state personnel to our organization. Second, military spouse licensing is increasingly included as a criteria in federal military basing decisions. When the Army or Air Force is considering providing new equipment or missions to the National Guard of various states, they are also looking at a state's military spouse licensing provisions as part of their decision making process. H.B. 6445 stands as a positive incremental step towards assisting your National Guard in competing for federal resources and bringing the associated capabilities, personnel, and funding into our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Evon, Jr.", written over a white background.

Francis J. Evon, Jr.  
Major General  
The Adjutant General