
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 347

AN ACT CREDITING MILITARY TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE TOWARD CERTAIN LICENSES RELATED TO SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a process by which someone with military experience may qualify to sit for the Department of Public Health (DPH) subsurface sewage disposal system installer or cleaner licensing exam without having to obtain an apprentice's permit first (see BACKGROUND and COMMENT).

Existing law allows a person, within two years of discharge from the armed forces, to apply to the labor department's apprenticeship training program to have his or her military experience satisfy requirements for conducting certain trades in Connecticut. The bill includes a DPH apprenticeship permit for subsurface sewage disposal work as a qualification for which the labor commissioner may substitute someone's military experience.

Under the bill, if the labor commissioner determines that an applicant's military training is equivalent to the DPH apprentice permit for subsurface sewage disposal system work, she must issue the applicant a recommendation for review by DPH. The bill (1) requires DPH to allow an applicant with the recommendation to take the licensure examination without having to obtain an apprentice's permit and (2) specifies that the recommendation is sufficient to show competency, requisite skill, and the ability to comply with applicable laws and regulations. For these applicants, the bill also waives the \$50 installer license fee and \$20 cleaner license fee.

Lastly, the bill makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

BACKGROUND

Subsurface Sewage Disposal System Work

A subsurface sewage disposal system is a septic tank and its associated leaching pits, trenches, beds, or galleries. A system installer is someone licensed to construct, install, repair, clean, or service these systems. A system cleaner is licensed only to clean or service them (CGS § 20-341a).

COMMENT

Apprenticeship Permit Not a Prerequisite for Exam

The bill allows individuals with certain military experience to obtain a recommendation for review from the labor department to enable them to sit for the subsurface sewage disposal system licensing exams without first obtaining a DPH apprentice’s permit. Under existing law, DPH issues one-year apprentice’s permits for those who will work under the supervision of a licensed subsurface sewage disposal system installer or cleaner. These permits, however, are not required to sit for the licensing exams.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans’ Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/15/2022)