



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Committee Bill No. 6004

LCO No. 4851



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

***AN ACT ELIMINATING SERVICE IN TIME OF WAR AS AN ELIGIBILITY
CRITERION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS' BENEFITS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10a-77 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2023*):

4 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any
5 of the regional community-technical colleges (1) for any dependent
6 child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has
7 declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war
8 while serving in such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child
9 has been accepted for admission to such institution and is a resident of
10 the state at the time such child is accepted for admission to such
11 institution, (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section,
12 for any veteran, as defined in section 27-103, who [performed service
13 in time of war, as defined in section 27-103, except that for purposes of
14 this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in
15 attendance at a military service academy, which veteran] has been

16 accepted for admission to such institution and is domiciled in this state
17 at the time such veteran is accepted for admission to such institution,
18 (3) for any resident of the state sixty-two years of age or older,
19 provided, at the end of the regular registration period, there are
20 enrolled in the course a sufficient number of students other than those
21 residents eligible for waivers pursuant to this subdivision to offer the
22 course in which such resident intends to enroll and there is space
23 available in such course after accommodating all such students, (4) for
24 any student attending the Connecticut State Police Academy who is
25 enrolled in a law enforcement program at said academy offered in
26 coordination with a regional community-technical college which
27 accredits courses taken in such program, (5) for any active member of
28 the Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been
29 certified by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee
30 as a member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or
31 accepted for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time
32 basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program, (6) for any
33 dependent child of a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or
34 supernumerary or auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in
35 section 7-323j, or member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal
36 employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in
37 the line of duty, (7) for any resident of the state who is a dependent
38 child or surviving spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a
39 resident of this state, (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the
40 state who was killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection
41 of Routes 44 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9)
42 for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving
43 spouse of a person who was killed in action while performing active
44 military duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after
45 September 11, 2001, and who was a resident of this state. If any person
46 who receives a tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this
47 subsection also receives educational reimbursement from an employer,
48 such waiver shall be reduced by the amount of such educational
49 reimbursement. Veterans and members of the National Guard
50 described in subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be given the same

51 status as students not receiving tuition waivers in registering for
52 courses at regional community-technical colleges. Notwithstanding the
53 provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this subsection, "domiciled in
54 this state" includes domicile for less than one year.

55 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10a-99 of the general statutes is
56 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
57 *October 1, 2023*):

58 (d) Said board shall waive the payment of tuition fees at the
59 Connecticut State University System (1) for any dependent child of a
60 person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be
61 missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in
62 such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted
63 for admission to such institution and is a resident of the state at the
64 time such child is accepted for admission to such institution, (2) subject
65 to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, for any veteran, as
66 defined in section 27-103, who [performed service in time of war, as
67 defined in section 27-103, except that for purposes of this subsection,
68 "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in attendance at a
69 military service academy, which veteran] has been accepted for
70 admission to such institution and is domiciled in this state at the time
71 such veteran is accepted for admission to such institution, (3) for any
72 resident of the state sixty-two years of age or older who has been
73 accepted for admission to such institution, provided (A) such resident
74 is enrolled in a degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the
75 regular registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient
76 number of students other than those residents eligible for waivers
77 pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in which such resident
78 intends to enroll and there is space available in such course after
79 accommodating all such students, (4) for any student attending the
80 Connecticut Police Academy who is enrolled in a law enforcement
81 program at said academy offered in coordination with the university
82 which accredits courses taken in such program, (5) for any active
83 member of the Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has

84 been certified by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's
85 designee as a member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is
86 enrolled or accepted for admission to such institution on a full-time or
87 part-time basis in an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting
88 program, (6) for any dependent child of a (A) police officer, as defined
89 in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or auxiliary police officer, (B)
90 firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or member of a volunteer fire
91 company, (C) municipal employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in
92 section 5-154, killed in the line of duty, (7) for any resident of this state
93 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of a specified terrorist
94 victim who was a resident of the state, (8) for any dependent child of a
95 resident of the state who was killed in a multivehicle crash at or near
96 the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29,
97 2005, and (9) for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or
98 surviving spouse of a person who was killed in action while
99 performing active military duty with the armed forces of the United
100 States on or after September 11, 2001, and who was a resident of this
101 state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver in accordance with
102 the provisions of this subsection also receives educational
103 reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be reduced by the
104 amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans and members of
105 the National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection shall
106 be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in
107 registering for courses at Connecticut state universities.
108 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
109 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
110 year.

111 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 10a-105 of the general statutes is
112 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
113 *October 1, 2023*):

114 (e) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at
115 The University of Connecticut (1) for any dependent child of a person
116 whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing

117 in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed
118 forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted for
119 admission to The University of Connecticut and is a resident of the
120 state at the time such child is accepted for admission to said institution,
121 (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, for any
122 veteran, as defined in section 27-103, who [performed service in time
123 of war, as defined in section 27-103, except that for purposes of this
124 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in
125 attendance at a military service academy, which veteran] has been
126 accepted for admission to said institution and is domiciled in this state
127 at the time such veteran is accepted for admission to said institution,
128 (3) for any resident of the state sixty-two years of age or older who has
129 been accepted for admission to said institution, provided (A) such
130 resident is enrolled in a degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of
131 the regular registration period, there are enrolled in the course a
132 sufficient number of students other than those residents eligible for
133 waivers pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in which such
134 resident intends to enroll and there is space available in such course
135 after accommodating all such students, (4) for any active member of
136 the Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been
137 certified by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee
138 as a member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or
139 accepted for admission to said institution on a full-time or part-time
140 basis in an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting program, (5)
141 for any dependent child of a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-
142 294a, or supernumerary or auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as
143 defined in section 7-323j, or member of a volunteer fire company, (C)
144 municipal employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-154,
145 killed in the line of duty, (6) for any resident of the state who is the
146 dependent child or surviving spouse of a specified terrorist victim who
147 was a resident of the state, (7) for any dependent child of a resident of
148 the state who was killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the
149 intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29,
150 2005, and (8) for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or
151 surviving spouse of a person who was killed in action while

152 performing active military duty with the armed forces of the United
153 States on or after September 11, 2001, and who was a resident of this
154 state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver in accordance with
155 the provisions of this subsection also receives educational
156 reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be reduced by the
157 amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans and members of
158 the National Guard described in subdivision (4) of this subsection shall
159 be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in
160 registering for courses at The University of Connecticut.
161 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
162 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
163 year.

164 Sec. 4. Section 5-224 of the general statutes is repealed and the
165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

166 Any veteran, [who served in time of war,] if such veteran is not
167 eligible for disability compensation or pension from the United States
168 Department of Veterans Affairs, or the spouse of such veteran who by
169 reason of such veteran's disability is unable to pursue gainful
170 employment, or the unmarried surviving spouse of such veteran, and
171 if such person has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any
172 examination held for an original appointment for the purpose of
173 establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance with
174 subsection (d) of section 5-228, shall have five points added to [his or
175 her] such person's earned rating. Any such veteran, or the spouse of
176 such veteran who by reason of such veteran's disability is unable to
177 pursue gainful employment, or the unmarried surviving spouse of
178 such veteran, if such person is eligible for such disability compensation
179 or pension and if such person has attained at least the minimum
180 earned rating on any such examination held for an original
181 appointment for the purpose of establishing a candidate list to fill a
182 vacancy in accordance with subsection (d) of section 5-228, shall have
183 ten points added to [his or her] such person's earned rating. Any
184 veteran who has served in a military action for which such [person]

185 veteran received or was entitled to receive a campaign badge or
186 expeditionary medal, shall have five points added to [his or her] such
187 veteran's earned rating if such [person] veteran has attained at least the
188 minimum earned rating on any such examination held for an original
189 appointment for the purpose of establishing a candidate list to fill a
190 vacancy in accordance with subsection (d) of section 5-228 and such
191 [person] veteran is not otherwise eligible to receive additional points
192 pursuant to this section. Any person who is a member of the armed
193 forces, as defined in section 27-103, and who is in the final year of an
194 enlistment contract with any branch of the armed forces shall have five
195 points added to [his or her] such person's earned rating if such person
196 has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any such
197 examination held for an original appointment for the purpose of
198 establishing a candidate list to fill a vacancy in accordance with
199 subsection (d) of section 5-228. Names of any such persons shall be
200 placed upon the candidate lists in the order of such augmented ratings.
201 Credits shall be based upon examinations with a possible rating of one
202 hundred points.

203 Sec. 5. Section 7-415 of the general statutes is repealed and the
204 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

205 Any veteran, [who served in time of war, if he] if such veteran is not
206 eligible for disability compensation or pension from the United States
207 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and if [he]
208 such veteran has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any
209 examination held for the purpose of establishing an employment list
210 for original appointment shall have five points added to [his] such
211 veteran's earned rating. Any such veteran, if [he] such veteran is
212 eligible for such disability compensation or pension and if [he] such
213 veteran has attained at least the minimum earned rating on any such
214 examination, shall have ten points added to [his] such veteran's earned
215 rating. Names of veterans shall be placed on the list of eligibles in the
216 order of such augmented rating. Credits shall be based upon
217 examinations with a possible rating of one hundred points. No such

218 points shall be added to any earned rating in any civil service or merit
219 examination except as provided in this section, the provisions of any
220 municipal charter or special act notwithstanding.

221 Sec. 6. Section 27-125 of the general statutes is repealed and the
222 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

223 Any veteran who is a citizen of this state and who, through
224 disability or other causes incident to service in the armed forces, [in
225 time of war,] is in need of temporary financial assistance may be
226 provided for by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs by a method
227 similar to that provided in section 27-82, the amount and continuance
228 of such assistance to be discretionary with the commissioner. The
229 widow, widower and each child, parent, brother or sister of any
230 member of the armed forces, who died while in such active service,
231 may be assisted by the commissioner if such person or persons are
232 without sufficient means of support by reason of the death of such
233 member of the armed forces. In carrying out [his or her] the
234 commissioner's duties under the provisions of this section, the
235 commissioner is directed to cooperate with such federal agencies as
236 may aid in securing prompt and suitable treatment, care and relief of
237 any such member of the armed forces or [his or her] such member's
238 dependents. The records of the agencies of the state shall be placed at
239 the disposal of the commissioner and such agencies are directed to
240 cooperate with and to assist the commissioner in carrying out [his or
241 her] the commissioner's duties. As used in this section, "veteran" has
242 the same meaning as provided in section 27-103.

243 Sec. 7. Section 27-140 of the general statutes is repealed and the
244 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

245 All money so paid to and received by the American Legion shall be
246 expended by it in furnishing temporary income; subsistence items such
247 as food, wearing apparel, shelter and related expenses; medical or
248 surgical aid or care or relief (1) to, or in bearing the funeral expenses
249 of, soldiers, sailors or marines (A) (i) who [performed service in time of

250 war, as defined in section 27-103,] served in any branch of the military
251 service of the United States, including the Connecticut National Guard,
252 or (ii) who were engaged in any of the wars waged by the United
253 States during said periods in the forces of any government associated
254 with the United States, (B) who are or were veterans, as defined in
255 section 27-103, and (C) who were citizens or resident aliens of the state
256 at the time of entering said armed forces of the United States, including
257 the Connecticut National Guard, or of any such government, (2) to
258 their spouses who are living with them, (3) to their widows or
259 widowers who were living with them at the time of death, or (4) to
260 dependent children under eighteen years of age, who may be in need
261 of [the same] such temporary income, subsistence items, medical or
262 surgical aid or care or relief. All such payments shall be made by the
263 American Legion under authority of its bylaws, which bylaws shall set
264 forth the procedure for proof of eligibility for such aid, provided
265 payments made for the care and treatment of any person entitled to the
266 benefits provided for [herein] in this section, at any hospital receiving
267 aid from the General Assembly unless special care and treatment are
268 required, shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-239,
269 and provided the sum expended for the care or treatment of such
270 person at any other place than a state-aided hospital shall in no case
271 exceed the actual cost of supporting such person at the Healthcare
272 Center in Rocky Hill maintained by the Department of Veterans
273 Affairs, unless special care and treatment are required, when such sum
274 as may be determined by the treasurer of such organization may be
275 paid [therefor] for such care and treatment. Upon the completion of the
276 trust provided for in section 27-138, the principal fund shall revert to
277 the State Treasury.

278 Sec. 8. Section 14-254 of the general statutes is repealed and the
279 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

280 "Disabled veteran", as used in this section, means (1) any veteran, as
281 defined in section 27-103, [who performed service in time of war, as
282 defined in section 27-103,] and (2) (A) one or both of whose legs or

283 arms or parts thereof have been amputated or the use of which has
284 been lost, (B) who is blind, paraplegic or hemiplegic, or (C) who has
285 traumatic brain injury, any such disability described in subdivision (2)
286 of this section being certified as service-connected by the United States
287 Department of Veterans Affairs. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles,
288 upon application of any disabled veteran accompanied by such
289 certificate of United States Department of Veterans Affairs, shall issue
290 without charge a special number plate or set of plates in accordance
291 with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b to be attached to
292 a passenger motor vehicle owned or operated by such disabled veteran
293 and an identification card to be used in connection therewith. The card
294 shall identify the disabled veteran and the motor vehicle and shall
295 state that such disabled veteran is qualified to receive the card, that the
296 card, plate or plates shall be returned to the commissioner if the
297 registration of the motor vehicle is cancelled or transferred and that the
298 card is for the exclusive use of the disabled veteran to whom it is
299 issued, is not transferable and will be revoked if presented by any
300 other person or if any privilege granted under this section is abused. If
301 not so revoked, the card shall be renewable every four years at the
302 time of registration of motor vehicles. No penalty shall be imposed for
303 the overtime parking of any motor vehicle bearing a number plate
304 issued under this section when it has been so parked by the disabled
305 veteran to whom the plate and an identification card were issued or by
306 any person operating such vehicle when accompanied by such
307 disabled veteran, provided the length of time for which such vehicle
308 may remain parked at any one location shall not exceed twenty-four
309 hours. The surviving spouse of a disabled veteran issued such special
310 registration may retain any such registration and number plates
311 without charge for [his or her] such surviving spouse's lifetime or until
312 such time as [he or she] such surviving spouse remarries.

313 Sec. 9. Subdivision (19) of section 12-81 of the general statutes is
314 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
315 *October 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after*
316 *October 1, 2023*):

317 (19) Subject to the provisions of sections 12-89, 12-90 and 12-95,
318 property to the amount of one thousand dollars belonging to, or held
319 in trust for, (A) any resident of this state who is a veteran, as defined in
320 section 27-103, [who was a member of the armed forces in service in
321 time of war,] (B) any resident of this state who was a citizen of the
322 United States at the time of [his] such resident's enlistment and who
323 was in the military or naval service of a government allied or
324 associated with that of the United States during the Second World War
325 and received an honorable discharge therefrom, (C) any resident of
326 this state who served during the Second World War as a member of
327 any armed force of any government signatory to the United Nations
328 Declaration of January 1, 1942, and participated in armed conflict with
329 an enemy of the United States and who has been a citizen of the United
330 States for at least ten years and presents satisfactory evidence of such
331 service, (D) any resident of this state who served as a member of the
332 crew of a merchant vessel during the Second World War and is
333 qualified with respect to such service as a member of the group known
334 as the "American Merchant Marine in ocean-going service during the
335 period of armed conflict, December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945",
336 members of which are deemed to be eligible for certain veterans
337 benefits under a determination in the United States Department of
338 Defense, as recorded in the Federal Register of February 1, 1988,
339 provided such resident has received an armed forces discharge
340 certificate from the Department of Defense on the basis of such service,
341 (E) any member of the armed forces who was in service in time of war
342 and is still in the service and by reason of continuous service has not as
343 yet received a discharge, (F) any person who is retired from the armed
344 forces after thirty years of service because [he] such person has reached
345 the age limit prescribed by law or because [he] such person suffers
346 from mental or physical disability, or (G) any person who is serving in
347 the armed services in time of war; or lacking said amount of property
348 in [his] such person's own name, so much of the property belonging to,
349 or held in trust for, [his] such person's spouse, who is domiciled with
350 [him] such person, as is necessary to equal said amount. For the
351 purposes of this subdivision, "veteran", "armed forces" and "service in

352 time of war" have the same meanings as provided in section 27-103;

353 Sec. 10. Section 27-76 of the general statutes is repealed and the
354 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

355 When requested by the commander of any accredited veteran
356 organization or by friends or relatives of any deceased person who has
357 served in any of the armed forces of the United States, [during time of
358 war, as defined in section 27-103, or] who has served in the National
359 Guard for more than twenty years or who has died while a member of
360 the National Guard, the Adjutant General shall order an honor guard
361 detail from the National Guard, the naval militia, the State Guard or
362 the organized militia to attend the funeral, except that if an honor
363 guard detail from such guard or militia is unavailable or committed
364 elsewhere, the Adjutant General shall request an honor guard detail
365 from a bona fide Connecticut state veterans' organization, provided
366 such detail shall comply with the rules and procedures set forth in
367 Connecticut National Guard regulation 37-106. Such detail shall consist
368 of not more than five members plus one bugler. The members thereof
369 shall be compensated at the rate of sixty dollars per day. Such
370 compensation shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Adjutant
371 General for the pay of the National Guard and from federal funds
372 received for that purpose.

373 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 21-37 of the general statutes is
374 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
375 *October 1, 2023*):

376 (a) Any town may make reasonable ordinances with reference to the
377 vending or hawking upon its public streets or upon any state highway,
378 except limited access highways, within such town or any land abutting
379 such streets or highways of any goods, wares or other merchandise at
380 public or private sale or auction, or to the vending or peddling of such
381 articles from house to house within its limits, including the imposition
382 of a fee, not exceeding two hundred dollars a year, applicable with
383 respect to any person engaged in such vending, hawking or peddling,

384 for the privilege of so vending, hawking or peddling such
 385 merchandise. Any ordinance adopted pursuant to this section which
 386 requires a permit may require that no such permit shall be issued to
 387 any person who has not obtained a permit to engage in or transact
 388 business as a seller within the state in accordance with section 12-409
 389 and shall require that any permit issued pursuant to such ordinance
 390 shall be conspicuously displayed at the place the activities are
 391 undertaken. Such ordinances may provide that the authority issuing
 392 such permit may waive the permit fee for a nonprofit organization
 393 exempt from federal taxation by Section 501 of the Internal Revenue
 394 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code
 395 of the United States, as from time to time amended, or a charitable
 396 organization. No town shall require a permit fee from any resident of
 397 this state who has resided within the state for a period of two years
 398 next preceding the date of application for such permit, who is (1) a
 399 veteran, [who served in time of war,] as defined in section 27-103, (2) a
 400 hawker or peddler, and (3) a principal pursuant to section 21-36.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 10a-77(d) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 10a-99(d) |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 10a-105(e) |
| Sec. 4 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 5-224 |
| Sec. 5 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 7-415 |
| Sec. 6 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 27-125 |
| Sec. 7 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 27-140 |
| Sec. 8 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-254 |
| Sec. 9 | <i>October 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2023</i> | 12-81(19) |
| Sec. 10 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 27-76 |
| Sec. 11 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 21-37(a) |

VA *Joint Favorable*

