

# Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-346

AN ACT CONCERNING OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE PORTABILITY FOR

**Title:** MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR SPOUSES.

**Vote Date:** 3/14/2024

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/7/2024

**File No.:** 165

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### **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

### **REASONS FOR BILL:**

To establish processes and procedures so that Connecticut can comply with the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, which permits the portability of professional licenses of servicemembers and their spouses.

### **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

#### **Jeffery Beckham, Secretary, Office of Policy and Management**

Provided testimony in support of this bill. Beckham endorses the movement towards Connecticut's compliance with federal regulation in respect to the portability of licenses for servicemembers and their spouses.

### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

#### **Bill Finch, Director, National Electrical Contractors Association**

Provided testimony in support of this bill, stating NECA's commitment to current and former members of the armed forces and willingness to recruit and employ veterans. Finch provides two suggestions for substitute language. Firstly, to clarify section 21a-11b of the general statutes under section 2 of the bill, and secondly to add language directing the Department of Consumer Protection to inform the appropriate occupational licensing examining board when approving an active servicemember's occupational license from another jurisdiction.

#### **Bryan Cafferelli, Commissioner, Department of Consumer Protection**

Provided testimony in support of the bill. The DCP thanks the committee for raising the bill, stating that the existing conflict state and federal statutes related to occupational licensure must be reconciled.

**Kimberly Glassman, Director, Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut**

Provided testimony in support of this bill. Glassman recognizes that Connecticut law must comply with federal regulation in this instance, and in that view suggests substitute language. Firstly, to clarify section 21a-11b of the general statutes under section 2 of the bill, and secondly to add language directing the Department of Consumer Protection to inform the appropriate occupational licensing examining board when approving an active servicemember's occupational license from another jurisdiction

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

No testimony was offered in opposition to this bill.

**Reported by: Garrett Smith**

**Date: March 29, 2024**