



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5488

LCO No. 1989

01989_____VA_

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Introduced by:
(VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF VETERAN AND THE REPORTING OF VETERAN'S BENEFITS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 27-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) As used in the general statutes, except chapter 504, and except as
4 otherwise provided: (1) "Armed forces" means the United States Army,
5 Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve
6 component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard
7 performing duty as provided in Title 32 of the United States Code; (2)
8 "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released
9 under honorable conditions from active service in, the armed forces;
10 (3) "service in time of war" means service of ninety or more
11 consecutive days except, if the period of war [, campaign or other
12 operation] lasted less than ninety days, "service in time of war" means
13 service for the entire [duration of the] period of war [, campaign or
14 other operation,] unless separated from service earlier because of a
15 service-connected disability rated by the Veterans' Administration;
16 [during a] and (4) "period of war" [,] has the same meaning as

17 [defined] provided in 38 USC 101, as amended, except that the
18 "Vietnam Era" means the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and
19 ending on July 1, 1975, in all cases; and "period of war" shall include
20 service while engaged in combat or a combat support role in Lebanon,
21 July 1, 1958, to November 1, 1958, or September 29, 1982, to March 30,
22 1984; Grenada, October 25, 1983, to December 15, 1983; Operation
23 Earnest Will, involving the escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers flying the
24 United States flag in the Persian Gulf, February 1, 1987, to July 23,
25 1987; and Panama, December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990, and shall
26 include service during such periods with the armed forces of any
27 government associated with the United States.

28 (b) As used in this part, "home" means the Veterans' Home
29 maintained by the state; "hospital" means any incorporated hospital or
30 tuberculosis sanatorium in the state and any state chronic disease
31 hospital, mental hospital or training school for the mentally retarded,
32 "veteran" means any veteran who served in time of war, as defined
33 [by] in subsection (a) of this section, and who is a resident of this state,
34 provided, if he was not a resident or resident alien of this state at the
35 time of enlistment or induction into the armed forces, he shall have
36 resided continuously in this state for at least two years; "eligible
37 dependent" means any parent, wife or husband, or child of a veteran
38 who has no adequate means of support; and "eligible family member"
39 means any parent, brother or sister, wife or husband, or child or
40 children under eighteen years of age, of any veteran whose
41 cooperation in the program is integral to the treatment of the veteran.

42 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) (a) Not later than July 15,
43 2007, and annually thereafter, each state agency or municipality that
44 provides benefits to veterans, as defined in section 27-103 of the
45 general statutes, as amended by this act, shall submit a report to the
46 Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs that includes a description of each
47 type of benefit provided to veterans, the value of such benefit and the
48 number of veterans to whom such benefit was provided, for the
49 twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of the same year. The

50 commissioner shall compile the data in such report.

51 (b) Not later than August 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, the
52 Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs shall submit a report of the data
53 compiled pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, for the twelve-
54 month period ending on June thirtieth of the same year, to the Military
55 Department and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
56 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety, in accordance
57 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report
58 shall specify the total number of veterans receiving benefits and the
59 value of such benefits by category of benefit and in total for such
60 period.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	27-103
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To amend the definition of "armed forces" to include the Connecticut National Guard and reserve components of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force; to revise certain definitions to conform with the United States Code; and to require the compilation of data regarding state benefits provided to veterans for use by the Military Department to recruit and retain military personnel.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]