



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 568**

January Session, 2009

House Bill No. 6406

*House of Representatives, April 8, 2009*

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 38th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-453d of the general statutes is repealed and  
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in  
4 collaboration with the Department of Children and Families and the  
5 Department of Veterans' Affairs, shall provide behavioral health  
6 services, on a transitional basis, for the dependents and any member of  
7 any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States who  
8 has been called to active service in the armed forces of this state or the  
9 United States for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi  
10 Freedom. Such transitional services shall be provided when no  
11 Department of Defense coverage for such services is available or such  
12 member is not eligible for such services through the Department of  
13 Defense, until an approved application is received from the federal  
14 Department of Veterans' Affairs and coverage is available to such  
15 member and such member's dependents.



The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

The bill codifies current practice and therefore will not result in a fiscal impact.

***The Out Years***

There is no fiscal impact in the out years.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6406*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY:**

Current law requires the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), in collaboration with Department of Children and Families, to provide transitional behavioral health services for members of any reserve component of the U. S. Armed Forces (and their dependents) called to active duty for Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) or Operation Iraqi Freedom. This bill conforms the law to practice by requiring that DMHAS collaborate with the state Veterans' Affairs (VA) Department as well.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****Transitional Services***

By law, the transitional services are provided as long as no Department of Defense (DOD) coverage for the veteran is available or the veteran is not eligible for DOD services. The services must continue until an approved application is received from the federal VA and coverage is available to the members and their dependents.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Joint Favorable Change of Reference  
Yea 10 Nay 0 (02/26/2009)

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/20/2009)