
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 371

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INDICATION OF A PERSON'S STATUS AS A VETERAN ON A MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE AND IDENTITY CARD.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the motor vehicles commissioner to include a person's status as a veteran, if applicable, on his or her driver's license or identity card. The person must request to have this status included and provide as proof a military discharge document (DD Form 214 or similar forms). The commissioner must verify the person's status from the discharge document.

The bill also requires the license or identity card to indicate, based on the military discharge document, that the person is (1) a veteran with service in time of war or (2) a veteran. Under state law, a "veteran" is an individual honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from active service in the U.S. Armed Forces. Service in time of war means at least 90 days active service in the U.S. Armed Forces during a statutorily defined period of war, unless the veteran was separated earlier by war (a U.S. Veterans' Administration-rated service-connected disability or the war lasted less than 90 days).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

BACKGROUND

By law, "armed forces" means the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force and any of their reserve components, including the Connecticut National Guard when under federal service.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 10 Nay 0 (03/08/2011)

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 36 Nay 0 (03/18/2011)