



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5298

February Session, 2012

* _____HB05298CE_JUD032312_____*

**AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDRAISING BY VETERANS'
ORGANIZATIONS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 27-100f of the 2012 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) On or before July 1, 2012, the Department of Veterans' Affairs
5 shall publish on the department's Internet web site an informational
6 page listing any benefits, services or programs offered to veterans or
7 their families by any state or federal agency, department or institution.
8 The department shall maintain the informational page after said date
9 and shall update the informational page annually. The department
10 shall publish on the informational page any information concerning
11 the eligibility requirements and application process for such benefits,
12 services or programs, the name and contact information of any entity
13 offering such benefits, services or programs, and a link to the Internet
14 web site for such entity.

15 (b) On or before July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs,
16 or the commissioner's designee, shall, within available funds and in
17 consultation with the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, publish a
18 list of preferred charitable nonprofit corporations, incorporated
19 pursuant to chapter 602 or any predecessor statutes thereto, who hold

20 themselves out to be established for any benevolent, educational,
21 philanthropic, humane, scientific, patriotic, social welfare or advocacy
22 purpose relating to or on behalf of veterans. Nonprofit corporations
23 may apply to the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs for inclusion on
24 the list by submitting information regarding their nonprofit activities
25 to the Department of Veterans' Affairs on a form prescribed by the
26 commissioner and any additional information the commissioner
27 deems necessary to determine whether a nonprofit corporation should
28 be included on the list. In compiling the list, said commissioners shall
29 consider the following, including, but not limited to: (1) Charity
30 accountability standards; (2) the ratio of charitable activity
31 expenditures to fundraising and administrative expenditures; (3)
32 violations of chapter 419d and regulations established pursuant to
33 chapter 419d; and (4) any information provided to the Department of
34 Veterans' Affairs by the nonprofit corporation. The list shall be
35 published on the informational Internet web site established in this
36 section and shall bear a disclaimer as follows: "This list is prepared for
37 the public solely for the purpose of information. The state of
38 Connecticut provides no warranty about the content or accuracy of the
39 content herein."

40 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) No person, firm or
41 corporation shall hold itself out to be a veterans' charitable
42 organization and, with the intent to defraud another, solicit charitable
43 contributions to inure to the benefit or profit of any person, firm or
44 corporation other than the veterans' charitable organization. For the
45 purpose of this section, "veterans' charitable organization" means any
46 person who is or holds itself out to be established for any benevolent,
47 educational, philanthropic, humane, scientific, patriotic, social welfare
48 or advocacy purpose relating to or on behalf of veterans.

49 (b) Any person, firm or corporation that violates any provision of
50 subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	27-100f
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

VA *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* CE
CE *Joint Favorable C/R* JUD