



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 242**

February Session, 2014

Substitute House Bill No. 5207

*House of Representatives, April 1, 2014*

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. WILLIS of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING COLLEGE CREDIT FOR MILITARY TRAINING.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) An institution of higher  
2 education may award college credit for military occupational specialty  
3 training to a veteran who enrolls at such institution and has experience  
4 in a military occupation recognized by such institution as substituting  
5 for or meeting the requirements of a particular course of study. Any  
6 institution of higher education that awards college credit for such  
7 training shall use course equivalency recommendations adopted by the  
8 American Council on Education and consider such veteran's existing  
9 college-level knowledge acquired through military or life experience in  
10 accordance with the prior learning portfolio assessment performed by  
11 Charter Oak State College when assigning college credit to a military  
12 occupation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

The bill results in no fiscal impact as the requirements of the bill are reflected in the current practice of state institutions of higher education.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5207*****AN ACT CONCERNING COLLEGE CREDIT FOR MILITARY TRAINING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows Connecticut public or private colleges and universities to award academic credit to veterans for military occupational specialty training and experience. If they award credit, institutions must award it in substitution for or fulfillment of degree requirements.

The bill also requires any institution that chooses to award such credit to (1) use the course equivalency recommendations adopted by the American Council on Education (ACE) and (2) consider the veteran's military and life experience using Charter Oak State College's prior learning portfolio assessment tool.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

**BACKGROUND*****ACE Course Equivalency Recommendations***

ACE, a coordinating association of higher education institutions, collaborates with the U.S. Department of Defense to review military training and experiences and recommend appropriate college credit for armed forces members.

***Prior Learning Portfolio Assessment***

Charter Oak State College, a public online college, allows students to construct and present portfolios containing evidence of life experiences that relate to specific college courses. The college analyzes the portfolios and awards the appropriate number of credits to students' transcripts.

***Related Bills***

sSB 212 and sHB 5299, both favorably reported by the Veterans' Affairs Committee, have provisions requiring higher education institutions to award college credit to veterans with military occupational specialty training.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/13/2014)