



21 Talcott Notch Road, Suite 1, Farmington, Connecticut 06032
Phone: (860) 678-0005 • Fax: (860) 678-0006
www.theccic.org

Testimony for the Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee
From
Judith B. Greiman
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
February 27, 2014

On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), I am submitting testimony on **HB 5207, AN ACT CONCERNING COLLEGE CREDIT FOR MILITARY TRAINING**. While we fully endorse the intent of HB 5207, we are concerned that the bill may unwittingly reduce options for Veterans to obtain college credit for their military experiences.

First, the bill does not expand options for Veterans, as it states that Institutions of Higher Education may award credit for military occupational specialty training. This is something that any institution may do already, within its own policies and procedures.

More problematic, is the subsequent statement in the bill that states "Any institution of higher education that awards college credit for such training shall use course equivalency recommendations...". Using the word, "shall" limits the institution to only using ACE recommendations, at the expense of other possible prior learning assessment vehicles, such as portfolio assessment and evaluations by other organizations, or the school's own evaluation of particular courses of study. We would like to see Veteran's awarded all credits for which they are due, for all the reasons stated for the initiation of this bill. We do not believe, however, that this bill has the proper language to achieve that goal. We believe that amending the bill to substitute the latter mentioned "shall" with "may" will make this bill better able to achieve its goal of serving the Veterans of our State.

Albertus Magnus College, Connecticut College, Fairfield University, Goodwin College,
Mitchell College, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer at Hartford, Sacred Heart University, Saint Joseph College, St. Vincent's College,
Trinity College, University of Bridgeport, University of Hartford, University of New Haven, Wesleyan University, Yale University