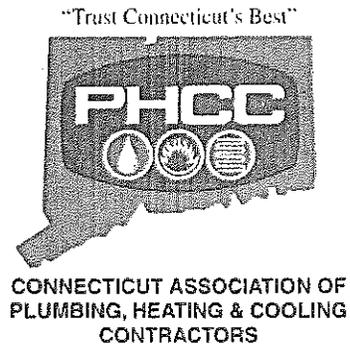


February 24, 2014



TO: Members of the Veteran's Committee

SUBJECT: Response to SB 212 and HB5299

RE: Trade Licensing for Veterans

The Connecticut Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractor Association supports the recognition of trade related training and work experience for veterans, but we feel that a license should not be granted without passing a state licensing exam. We also feel that all applicants that apply for a trade licenses should meet all requirements for classroom and field training.

Our strongest opposition to the passing of the bills are safety concerns. Although veterans may receive experience while on active duty, they are not prepared for many of the civilian issues that trained and licensed Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors face on the job each day. When you are working with natural and propane gas, electricity and fuel oil you must have the training and qualifications on how to handle these issues when they arise. Also, it is important that they are educated on the proper disposal of sewage and the dangers of drinking water contamination.

For these reasons, we OPPOSE bills SB212 and HB5299.

Sincerely,

Jack Cawley  
CT PHCC President