



**House Bill No. 6833**

**Public Act No. 15-65**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF  
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MILITARY  
AFFAIRS.**

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 32-58b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

(b) The Governor, in consultation with the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, shall appoint an executive director to manage the daily activities and duties of the Office of Military Affairs. The executive director shall have the necessary qualifications to perform the duties of said office, including, but not limited to, having prior military experience, and having attained the rank of [an] a field grade or senior officer within a branch of the armed forces. The Governor shall give preference to any person with the necessary training and experience who has served in the Navy or who has knowledge or prior experience with the federal Base Realignment and Closure or "BRAC" process. Within available appropriations, the executive director shall: (1) Appoint, employ and remove such assistants, employees and personnel as deemed necessary for the efficient and effective administration of the activities of the office; (2)

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coordinate state and local efforts to prevent the closure or downsizing of Connecticut military facilities, particularly United States Naval Submarine Base-New London, located in Groton; (3) maximize the state's input into the federal Base Realignment and Closure or "BRAC" process, including, but not limited to, (A) acting as liaison to the state's congressional delegation on defense, military and BRAC issues, and (B) [acting as liaison to consultant lobbyists] coordinating the activities of consultants hired by the state to assist in monitoring activities related to BRAC; (4) encourage the relocation of military missions to the state; (5) coordinate state and local efforts to enhance the quality of life of all branches of military personnel stationed in or deploying from Connecticut and their families living or working in Connecticut; (6) review and make recommendations for state policies that affect Connecticut's military facilities and defense and homeland security industries; (7) coordinate state, regional and local efforts to encourage the growth of Connecticut's defense and homeland security industry; (8) [support the development of a Defense and Homeland Security Industry Cluster] serve as an advocate for service members and their families to other state agencies; (9) [establish and coordinate a Connecticut Military and Defense Advisory Council to provide technical advice and assistance] initiate and sustain collaborative partnerships with local military commanders; (10) [oversee the implementation of recommendations of the Governor's Commission for the Economic Diversification of Southeastern Connecticut] consult with the Department of Economic and Community Development on proposed financial assistance agreements with defense and homeland security firms; and (11) prepare and submit a report of activities, findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and public safety, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

Approved June 19, 2015