



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6833

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 3609



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

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:

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*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

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

17 efficient and effective administration of the activities of the office; (2)
18 coordinate state and local efforts to prevent the closure or downsizing
19 of Connecticut military facilities, particularly United States Naval
20 Submarine Base-New London, located in Groton; (3) maximize the
21 state's input into the federal Base Realignment and Closure or "BRAC"
22 process, including, but not limited to, (A) acting as liaison to the state's
23 congressional delegation on defense, military and BRAC issues, and
24 (B) [acting as liaison to consultant lobbyists] coordinating the activities
25 of consultants hired by the state to assist in monitoring activities
26 related to BRAC; (4) encourage the relocation of military missions to
27 the state; (5) coordinate state and local efforts to enhance the quality of
28 life of all branches of military personnel stationed in or deploying from
29 Connecticut and their families living or working in Connecticut; (6)
30 review and make recommendations for state policies that affect
31 Connecticut's military facilities and defense and homeland security
32 industries; (7) coordinate state, regional and local efforts to encourage
33 the growth of Connecticut's defense and homeland security industry;
34 (8) [support the development of a Defense and Homeland Security
35 Industry Cluster] serve as an advocate for service members and their
36 families to other state agencies; (9) [establish and coordinate a
37 Connecticut Military and Defense Advisory Council to provide
38 technical advice and assistance] initiate and sustain collaborative
39 partnerships with local military commanders; (10) [oversee the
40 implementation of recommendations of the Governor's Commission
41 for the Economic Diversification of Southeastern Connecticut] consult
42 with the Department of Economic and Community Development on
43 proposed financial assistance agreements with defense and homeland
44 security firms; and (11) prepare and submit a report of activities,
45 findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the joint
46 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
47 matters relating to commerce and public safety, in accordance with the
48 provisions of section 11-4a.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	32-58b(b)

CE *Joint Favorable*