



## State of Connecticut

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**Tuesday, February 17, 2015**

**Veterans' Affairs Committee**

**Public Hearing Testimony in Support of  
House Bill 5108**

**"An Act Concerning Affordable Housing for Veterans and Members of the  
Armed Forces."**

Good afternoon Chairman Flexer, Chairman Hennessy, Ranking Member Martin, Ranking Member Yaccarino, and honorable members of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before your committee today on HB 5108.

This bill aims to address the growing need for affordable housing for Connecticut's veterans. Members of the armed forces bravely serve our country but many return to Connecticut to find that there is a lack of affordable housing options for them. This is very concerning, and we certainly have a duty to aid our veterans in finding affordable housing once they return from service.

Reports indicate that almost 75% of the state's 222,000 veterans are over that age of 55. As these veterans age, they will face more health challenges. Many veterans cannot afford to move into assisted living housing in order to face these challenges in a more comfortable way. By directing the Department of Housing to provide more resources to help these veterans, we will ensure that our veterans are properly cared for when they come home.

Thank you again for allowing me to testify on this bill. I urge your support in helping move this bill forward.