



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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Tuesday, February 17th, 2015

Veteran's Affairs Committee Public Hearing Testimony on HB 6383

Dear Senator Flexer, Representative Hennessy, Senator Martin, Representative Yaccarino, and members of the Veteran's Affairs Committee,

My name is Tim Ackert and I represent the 8th District which includes Columbia, Coventry, Vernon and Tolland. Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today to speak on House Bill 6383.

HB 6383:

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL COSTS OF CERTAIN VETERAN AMPUTEES.

I am requesting that chapter 506 of the general statutes be amended to require the Department of Veteran's Affairs to cover the cost of medical services or equipment relating to the loss in service of an arm or leg when such medical services or equipment are not covered by the Federal Department of Veteran's Affairs.

It has come to my attention, with veterans in the recent past, that there are restrictions to services for amputees. In speaking to a disabled veteran's wife, she had mentioned that her husband was getting measured for "all his prosthetic legs". So I asked the question: "all his legs?" She said that since he gets limited measuring he is going to get as many types as he can – walking, running, etc.

So I am asking if our veterans, especially disabled veterans, are in need of services that have not been provided by the Federal DVA, that Connecticut DVA provides those services.