



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 191

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5416

House of Representatives, March 24, 2016

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported through REP. HENNESSY of the 127th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND VETERANS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) The Labor Commissioner
2 shall establish a Special Operations Resource Network to serve as a
3 clearinghouse for veterans and members of the armed forces and
4 National Guard who have acquired, as part of their military training,
5 knowledge, experience or a set of skills most compatible with certain
6 professional opportunities. The Labor Commissioner, in consultation
7 with the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs and the Adjutant General,
8 shall develop a database in which such veterans and members are
9 categorized based on the types of military training received and cross-
10 referenced against certain professional opportunities for purposes of
11 pairing any such veteran or member with any such professional
12 opportunity. Any veteran or member of the armed forces or National
13 Guard may apply for inclusion in such database by submitting (1)
14 evidence of the military training received by such veteran or member
15 describing the particular knowledge, experience or set of skills

16 acquired, and (2) if such applicant is a veteran, such veteran's military
 17 discharge document or a certified copy thereof. The Labor
 18 Commissioner shall evaluate any such application, include such
 19 veteran or member in such database, and so categorize such veteran or
 20 member as described in this section. The Labor Commissioner shall
 21 update such database weekly and shall publish such database on the
 22 Labor Department's Internet web site. Any person interested in hiring
 23 any such veteran or member included in such database shall contact
 24 the department through a dedicated telephone number and the
 25 department shall facilitate contact between such person and such
 26 veteran or member. For the purposes of this section, (A) "veteran"
 27 means any person who was discharged or released under conditions
 28 other than dishonorable from active service in the armed forces, (B)
 29 "armed forces" has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103 of
 30 the general statutes, and (C) "military discharge document" has the
 31 same meaning as provided in section 1-219 of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1, "as described in this subsection" was changed to "as described in this section" for accuracy.

VA *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill requires the labor commissioner, in consultation with the adjutant general and veterans' affairs commissioner, to establish a jobs database to match veterans and members of the armed forces with certain skills to available professional opportunities. It is anticipated that the database requirements outlined in the bill could be accommodated within the capabilities of the Labor Department's new CTHires website and as such the bill does not result in any fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5416*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND VETERANS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the labor commissioner to establish a special operations resource network as a clearinghouse for veterans and armed forces members who, as part of their military training, acquired knowledge, experience, or skills most compatible with certain professional opportunities. Under the bill, a “veteran” is anyone discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable from active service in the armed forces.

The bill requires the labor commissioner, in consultation with the adjutant general and veterans' affairs commissioner, to develop a database that categorizes veterans and armed forces members, including National Guard members, based on their military training and cross-referencing that information against certain professional opportunities to pair participants with any such opportunity.

Veterans or armed forces members may apply to be included in the database by submitting evidence of their military training, describing the particular knowledge, experience, or set of skills acquired; veterans must also submit their military discharge document or a certified copy of it. The labor commissioner must evaluate applications and categorize applicants in the database. He must update the database weekly and publish it on the Labor Department's Internet website.

Anyone interested in hiring someone in the database must contact the Labor Department through a dedicated telephone number, and the department must facilitate contact between the parties.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/08/2016)