



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 138

January Session, 2017

Substitute House Bill No. 7179

House of Representatives, March 22, 2017

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 TERMINATION OF CERTAIN CONTRACTS BY CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ORDERED INTO ACTIVE STATE SERVICE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 27-34a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

3 (a) Any member of the Connecticut National Guard whom the
4 Governor orders into active state service shall have all of the
5 protections afforded to service members on federal active service by
6 the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act,
7 38 USC Sections 4301 to 4333, inclusive, and by the Servicemembers
8 Civil Relief Act, except for the provisions of 50 USC App, Sections 536
9 and 541 to 549, inclusive, pertaining to life insurance, as amended.

10 (b) In addition to the protections described in the Servicemembers
11 Civil Relief Act and afforded under this section, any such member
12 ordered into active state service may terminate any contract for

13 telecommunication services, Internet services, television services,
 14 satellite radio services or membership at an athletic club or gym, at any
 15 time after the date such member receives military orders directing
 16 such member to a location, for a period of ninety days or more, that
 17 does not support any such contract. Any such member terminating
 18 such contract shall do so by submitting to a provider of any such
 19 service or membership written or electronic notice of such termination
 20 and a copy of such member's military orders.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2017	27-34a

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), a comma was inserted after "gym", "for a period of ninety days or more," was moved to after "location", and "Such member shall terminate such contract" was changed to "Any such member terminating any such contract shall do so", for clarity; and the title was changed.

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 results in no fiscal impact as it does not involve state agency processes or requirements.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 7179

AN ACT CONCERNING TERMINATION OF CERTAIN CONTRACTS BY CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ORDERED INTO ACTIVE STATE SERVICE.

SUMMARY

This bill allows any Connecticut National Guard member ordered into active service to cancel certain contracts at any time after receiving orders for 90 days or more to a location that does not support such contract. These contracts include those for telecommunication services, Internet services, television services, satellite radio services, or a membership at an athletic club or gym.

In order to terminate the contract, the National Guard member must submit to the service or membership provider a written or electronic notice of the termination and a copy of his or her military orders.

The protections under the bill are in addition to the state law that incorporates the protections provided under the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) and Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA), except for provisions pertaining to life insurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2017

BACKGROUND

USERRA

USERRA provides reemployment rights for service members returning from serving in the uniformed services and prohibits employers from discriminating against them based on their military service or obligation (38 U.S.C. §§ 4301-4333).

SCRA

SCRA gives specific rights and legal protections to people in military service. It addresses such issues as interest rates, rental and lease agreements, eviction, health and life insurance, mortgage foreclosure, civil judicial proceedings, and income tax payments (50 U.S.C. §§ 3911-4043).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/02/2017)