

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 19-62—SB 951

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Education Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING VETERAN ENROLLMENT IN CERTAIN
ALTERNATE ROUTE TO CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS**

SUMMARY: This act requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to reserve for veterans 10% of seats available in the existing alternate route to certification program for alternate professions (i.e., a program through which individuals from certain professions can attain their initial educator certificate). The act requires SDE to make seats that are not filled by veterans available for all persons from an alternate profession (see below). Under the act, a veteran is anyone honorably discharged, or released under honorable conditions, from active service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Air Force, or any reserve component, including the National Guard performing duty under Title 32 of federal law (e.g., certain Homeland Security missions) (CGS § 27-103(a)).

Under the act and existing law, such veterans must hold at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited higher education institution to be eligible to participate.

The act also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

PERSONS FROM AN ALTERNATE PROFESSION

By law, “person from an alternate profession” means a person who holds at least a bachelor's degree from a higher education institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or that is regionally accredited, and:

1. is a paraeducator;
2. is a veteran;
3. holds a charter school educator permit issued by the State Board of Education; or
4. is or was employed as a professor at an accredited institution of higher education.

It also includes individuals who hold a master's degree from (1) a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or (2) an equivalent educational program located outside the United States or its territories (CGS § 10-145w).