Bill No.: HB-7134
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING BUS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CHARGES FOR VETERANS.
Vote Date: 3/12/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute
PH Date: 3/7/2019

Disclaimer: The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.

SPONSORS OF BILL:
Veterans' Affairs Committee
Sen. Saud Anwar

REASONS FOR BILL:
This bill permits veterans to utilize state-owned or state-controlled public bus transportation at a discounted rate, provided they present a form of identification that indicates their status as a veteran. Many veterans experience difficulties with transportation, and reduced fares for public buses may help lessen some of those challenges.

***Proposed Substitute Language: Initially the language stipulated that qualifying veterans would be exempt from fees for public bus transportation. This exemption was removed in H.B. No. 7134 (LCO 5939) and replaced by a discounted rate modelled after that which is available to seniors.***

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:
None expressed for H.B. No. 7134

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:
Daniel C. Thurston, Chairman, Connecticut Veterans and Military Coalition: Mr. Thurston testified that H.B. No. 7134 would help veterans get to and from appointments, provided they have access to public transportation.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:
None expressed for H.B. No. 7134

Reported by:  Benjamin S. Watson, Asst. Clerk    Date: March 21\textsuperscript{st}, 2019