

# Veterans' Affairs Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-7247

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO VETERANS' RESOURCES

**Title:** INFORMATION.

**Vote Date:** 3/12/2019

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/7/2019

**File No.:**

***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

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

While there are many programs and services offered to veterans, it is often challenging to make those eligible aware that such programs exist. To help correct this, H.B. No. 7247 (LCO 5916) mandates that information on public and private resources available to veterans, as well as the means of accessing such programs, be integrated into the existing 2-1-1 Infoline program by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

\*\*\*Proposed Substitute Language: The original language held the United Way of Connecticut solely responsible for the implementation of H.B. No. 7247. The substitute language in H.B. No. 7247 (LCO 5916) dictates that the Department of Veterans Affairs shall collaborate with the United Way of Connecticut to implement the measures specified in the bill.\*\*\*

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed for H.B. No. 7247

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

Daniel C. Thurston, Chairman, Connecticut Veterans and Military Coalition: Mr. Thurston stated his strong support for H.B. No. 7247, stressing that outreach is one of the most important aspects of protecting veterans, and that the greatest challenge faced by the CVMC was making every veteran aware of the programs and services that Connecticut and its veterans' organizations offer.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed for H.B. No. 7247

**Reported by: Benjamin S. Watson, Asst. Clerk      Date: March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**