

Veterans' Affairs Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-7248

AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE STUDENT STATUS FOR SPOUSES AND
Title: CHILDREN OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Vote Date: 3/12/2019

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/7/2019

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Veterans' Affairs Committee
Sen. Saud Anwar

REASONS FOR BILL:

H.B. No. 7248 affords in-state student status to the spouses of members of the armed forces who are stationed in Connecticut. This is the same benefit given to children of such members of the armed forces and, as is the case with such children, the spouse will not lose in-state student status if the qualifying member of the armed forces is transferred on military orders. Additionally, H.B. No. 7248 clarifies that the child of a member of the armed forces gains in-status status upon acceptance to a state system of higher learning. By encouraging eligible individuals to attend state schools, such individuals build relationships, find employment opportunities, and put down roots in our state.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Harold E. Cooney, Northeast Regional Liaison, United States Department of Defense](#): Mr. Cooney offered his support for the bill and explained that in most states, in-state status for tuition purposes is granted while a student is "enrolled," or "currently enrolled." This language creates a situation where an accepted student may lose in-state status if the qualifying service member retires, leaves the service, or is stationed out-of-state after the student is accepted but prior to the start of classes. Mr. Cooney thanked the committee for the opportunity to support H.B. No. 7248, and expressed gratitude for Connecticut's history of supporting military members and their families.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Daniel C. Thurston, Chairman, Connecticut Veterans and Military Coalition](#): Mr. Thurston stated that the CVMC supports H.B. No. 7248

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed for H.B. No. 7248

Reported by: Benjamin S. Watson, Asst. Clerk Date: March 22nd, 2019