



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

***Raised Bill No. 218***

LCO No. 1672



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:  
(VA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN VETERANS' BENEFITS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-20b of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2020*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any veteran  
5 or member of the armed forces or the surviving spouse of such veteran  
6 or member, shall register any motor vehicle owned or leased for a period  
7 of at least one year by such person and shall issue a special certificate of  
8 registration and a set of number plates for each such motor vehicle,  
9 including a special certificate of registration and a set of number plates  
10 for any motor vehicle used exclusively for farming purposes by any  
11 veteran or member of the armed forces, or the surviving spouse of such  
12 veteran or member, who is engaged in agricultural production as a trade  
13 or business. The plates shall expire and be renewed as provided in  
14 section 14-22. The commissioner shall charge a fee for such plates, which  
15 fee shall cover the entire cost of making such plates and shall be in

16 addition to the fee for registration of such motor vehicle. As used in this  
17 subsection, "member of the armed forces" has the same meaning as  
18 provided in section 27-103 and "veteran" means any person (1)  
19 honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions  
20 from active service in, the armed forces, or (2) with a qualifying  
21 condition, as defined in section 27-103, who has received a discharge  
22 other than bad conduct or dishonorable from active service in the armed  
23 forces. For purposes of this subsection, active service includes initial  
24 active duty for training purposes.

25 Sec. 2. Subsection (f) of section 14-36h of the general statutes is  
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
27 *2020*):

28 (f) As used in this section: (1) "Full legal name" means the most  
29 complete version of the name that appears on a person's certificate of  
30 birth, official passport or other document or documents accepted by the  
31 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to verify the person's identity, unless  
32 the person presents a marriage license or certificate, a certificate of civil  
33 union, a divorce decree or an order of a court of competent jurisdiction  
34 pertaining to a permanent change of the person's name; and (2)  
35 "veteran" means (A) any person honorably discharged from, or released  
36 under honorable conditions from active service in, the armed forces, as  
37 defined in section 27-103, (B) any former member of the armed forces  
38 who is entitled to retirement pay under 10 USC Chapter 1223, as  
39 amended from time to time, or, but for age, would be so entitled, or (C)  
40 any person with a qualifying condition, as defined in section 27-103,  
41 who has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable  
42 from active service in the armed forces. For purposes of this subsection,  
43 active service includes initial active duty for training purposes.

44 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10a-149d of the general statutes is  
45 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
46 *2020*):

47 (a) An institution of higher education shall award college credit for

48 military occupational specialty training to a member of the armed forces  
 49 or the National Guard or a veteran who enrolls at such institution and  
 50 has experience in a military occupation recognized by such institution  
 51 as substituting for or meeting the requirements of a particular course of  
 52 study. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" means any person (1)  
 53 [who was] honorably discharged from, or released under conditions  
 54 other than dishonorable from active service in the armed forces, [and  
 55 "armed forces"] or (2) with a qualifying condition, as defined in section  
 56 27-103, who has received a discharge other than bad conduct or  
 57 dishonorable from active service in the armed forces. "Armed forces"  
 58 has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103. "Active service"  
 59 includes initial active duty for training purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	14-20b(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	14-36h(f)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	10a-149d(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To include initial active duty for training purposes to be counted as qualifying service for veterans' benefits eligibility for operators' licenses, veteran designation on license plates and college credit for military training.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*