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## OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5368

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S GUARDS, CERTAIN MILITARY DEPARTMENT MONEYS AND A MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS RIBBON.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill makes changes in several laws pertaining to the state military department. Specifically, it does the following:

1. authorizes the governor to order the Governor's Foot and Horse Guards ("Governor's Guards") to state military duty at any time, rather than only during certain emergency situations or in anticipation of them (§ 3);
2. removes provisions establishing the number, rank, and structure of personnel allowed in the companies of the Governor's Guards, and instead generally allows company composition to be determined through the governor's orders and regulations (§§ 1 & 2);
3. allows gifts, grants, and donations to be deposited into the Army National Guard morale, welfare and recreation account and renames the account (§ 4); and
4. authorizes the Adjutant General to issue military funeral honor ribbons to military personnel, including Connecticut National Guard and organized militia members, who perform honor guard details (§ 5).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

#### **§§ 1 - 3 — GOVERNOR'S GUARDS**

##### ***State Military Duty***

The Governor's Guards are a part of the state's organized militia and

often perform ceremonial military duties (e.g., at parades and other civic functions) (CGS § 27-2).

Under current law, the governor may order the Governor's Guards out for duty (i.e., to state military duty) in times of war, invasion, rebellion, or riot, or when he has a reasonable apprehension any of these will occur. The bill instead allows him to order the Governor's Guards to state military duty at any time.

The bill also deletes obsolete references to charter provisions specifying the guards' organization, training, and discipline. (PA 21-158 required the governor to configure and administer the state's militia units.)

### ***Composition and Structure***

Current law specifies the number, rank, and structure of the personnel in each of the four companies that compose the Governor's Guard. The bill retains each company's senior leadership positions (one major commandant and one sergeant major of specified ranks) but allows other personnel of any number or rank that comply with the commander-in-chief's (i.e., governor's) orders and regulations about the companies' organization and structure.

### **§ 4 — MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION ACCOUNT**

Under current law, the "Army National Guard state morale, welfare and recreation account" is a nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The bill allows public and private gifts, grants, and donations to be deposited into the account, rather than only money that the law requires. It also renames the account the "Military Department state morale, welfare and recreation account."

The bill requires the Adjutant General to annually report, beginning August 1, 2022, to the Office of Policy and Management on deposits to and expenditures from the account.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/15/2022)