

PA 11-041

HB6419

House	1133-1138	6
Senate	2081-2085	5
<u>Veterans Affairs</u>	<u>186, 188, 189</u>	<u>3</u>

**14**

**H – 1095**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2011**

**VOL.54  
PART 4  
1040 – 1385**

rgd/md/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

76  
April 27, 2011

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House of Representatives, we have some visitors today from Booth Hill School in Trumbull and we're very lucky and happy to have them here. They are in fourth grade, Mrs. King's class, I believe, that they're all waving hi.

So Representative Hwang and I are going to come up here in a second, but we wanted to introduce them to everyone. Trumbull is in the House, as they say, so if -- I'd kindly ask you to give them a warm welcome, as usual.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

We certainly appreciate you taking the time to come and visit us here in the Chamber, and I hope you have an enjoyable day.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 194.

THE CLERK:

On page 14, Calendar 194, House Bill Number 6419, AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMPOSITION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT AND THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, favorable report of the Committee on Public Safety and Security.

rgd/md/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

77  
April 27, 2011

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hennessy of the 127th.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question is acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

Representative Hennessy, you have the floor.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is a technical change that the -- that our military asked for. What this bill does is increases from 10 to 15 years the minimum number of commissioned service years a person must have in the United States Armed Forces to be appointed adjutant general.

It requires the person to have at least reached the rank of lieutenant colonel in the United States Army, Marine Corps or Air Force, or the equivalent in the United States Navy or Coast Guard. We need to clean up the language a little bit in order to indicate the Navy and the Coast Guard rank, being commander.

rgd/md/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

78  
April 27, 2011

So with that, Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 5336. I would ask the Clerk to please call the amendment and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 5336, which will be designated House Amendment Schedule "A."

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 5336, House "A," offered by  
Representatives Hennessy, Aresimowicz, and Olson.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The Representative is seeking leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Hennessy, you may proceed with summarization.

REP. HENNESSY (127th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is a technical change to lines 16 and 17 that strikes the word, "equivalent," and inserts, the rank of commander or higher. It just is a good technical change, and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question before the Chamber is adoption of

rgd/md/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

79  
April 27, 2011

House Amendment Schedule "A." Will you remark on that amendment? Will you remark on the amendment? Will you speak further? Will you remark further on the amendment before us? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor, signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Opposed. The ayes have it and the amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Adinolfi of the 103.

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I'd like to thank Representative Hennessy for bringing this bill forward. I think this bill is long overdue.

We are now given the qualifications and the proper rank that we need to become the adjutant general, and I think that's important that that's defined, that's clarified, and we'll move forward with this. And it will provide much, much better management of the adjutant general's office.

So thank you, Mr. Speaker. I encourage everybody to vote for this bill. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative Adinolfi.

Representative Nicastro of the 79th.

REP. NICASTRO (79th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I support -- I stand in support of this amendment. We had it and the Veterans Committee. The Veterans Committee unanimously approved this amendment and this bill.

It needed to be changed because, as you well know, everybody knows that, like, the Marine Corps or the Army and the Air Force, they have certain ranks -- and the Navy goes by commander, lieutenant commander. We had to make sure that when we have an appointment here that we call out the proper rank. It's just a technicality that needed to be changed, and I strongly support this bill.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative Nicastro.

Will you remark further on the bill further, as amended? Will you remark on the bill as amended? Will

rgd/md/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

81  
April 27, 2011

you remark on the bill as amended? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House. Will the members please take their seats. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill Number 6419 as amended by House A.

Total Number voting	147
Necessary for adoption	74
Those voting Yea	147
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	4

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill as amended is passed. The bill as

**S - 617**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2011**

**VOL. 54  
PART 6  
1735- 2085**

rgd/md/gbr  
SENATE

69  
May 20, 2011

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, on calendar page 12, Calendar 416, House Bill 6345, Mr. President, would move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, On calendar page 13, Calendar 419, House Bill 6310, Mr. President, move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Also on calendar page 13, Mr. President, calendar page -- Calendar Number 420, House Bill 6419, Mr. President, would move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

rgd/md/gbr  
SENATE

70  
May 20, 2011

Thank you, Mr. President.

Also on calendar page 13, Calendar 423, House Bill 6286, Mr. President, move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

And additionally on calendar page 27, Calendar 92, Senate Bill 912, Mr. President, move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, if the Clerk would call the items on the first consent calendar and if we might proceed to a vote on that consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the consent calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call

rgd/md/gbr  
SENATE

71  
May 20, 2011

has been ordered in the Senate on the consent calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

Mr. President, those items placed on the first consent calendar begin on calendar page 11, Calendar Number 373, Substitute for Senate Bill 951; calendar page 12, Calendar 414, Substitute for House Bill 6299; Calendar 416, House Bill 6345; Calendar 417, Substitute for House Bill 6462; calendar page 13, Calendar 419, Substitute for House Bill 6310; Calendar 420, House Bill 6419; Calendar 423, Substitute for House Bill 6286; Calendar 425, Substitute for House Bill 5174.

Calendar page 19, Calendar Number 479, House Bill 5468; calendar page 26, Calendar Number 56, Substitute for Senate Bill 28; calendar page 27, Calendar Number 92, Senate Bill 912; and calendar page 32, Calendar Number 190, Substitute for Senate Bill 957.

Mr. President, that completes the items placed on the first consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

This is an inquiry, was Calendar 416 on page 12 among those items that you called?

rgd/md/gbr  
SENATE

72  
May 20, 2011

THE CLERK:

Yes, Mr. President. Calendar Number 416, which was House Bill 6345 was called and placed on the first consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

THE CLERK:

The Senate is now voting by roll call on the consent calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the consent calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

The machine is open.

Senators, please check the board to see that your vote is properly recorded. If all members have voted and if all votes are properly recorded the machine will be locked. Would the Clerk please take a tally.

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar Number 1.

Total Number voting	36
Necessary for adoption	19

rgd/md/gbr  
SENATE

73  
May 20, 2011

Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar is passed.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President.

I have some additional items to mark go at  
this time.

THE CHAIR:

You may proceed, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, first, on calendar page 6,  
Calendar 229, Senate Bill 205 might be marked go.  
Next, Mr. President, calendar page 36,  
Calendar 273, Senate Bill 1115 is marked go. And  
then, Mr. President, moving back to calendar page  
9, Calendar 330, Senate Bill 3673 is marked go.

THE CHAIR:

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**SELECT  
COMMITTEE  
ON VETERANS'  
AFFAIRS  
1 – 230**

**2011  
INDEX**



National Guard Association of Connecticut  
360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795  
www.ngact.org

Mar. 1, 2011

**Testimony in Favor of Raised Bills 914, 995, 996, 1071, 6419  
and 6478**

Good Morning Sen. Maynard, Representative Hennessy and members of the Select Committee on Veterans Affairs. I am Debbi Newton, Legislative Chair of the National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT). I have served in that position for seven years and have been a member of the Connecticut National Guard for 31 years.

I apologize for not being before you today, but one of our National Guard units is returning from their year-long deployment in Afghanistan today and I am there.

I speak in favor of several bills currently before you.

NGACT supports Raised Bills 995, ACC State Military Accounts; 996 ACC Concerning the State Military Civil Support Team and 6419 ACC the Composition of the Military Department and the Qualifications of the Adjutant General. These proposals will help the National Guard perform even more effectively than it already does.

**Raised Bill 914 An Act Establishing a Micro-Loan Program for Veterans** is one that NGACT has brought before you before. We understand times are tough. We know the state is in financial crises. That is exactly why we need this Micro-Loan Program. Many of our Soldiers and Airmen in the Guard and many of our Reservists were self-employed before they were called on to deploy. For some, they were the only employee they had, for others, there were small staffs that perhaps had to be let go and the business shut down while the owner was serving his or her country. These Veterans and their former employees would like to get their businesses back up and running, or some may even want to start their own businesses. They are good risks according to many companies who hire veterans. They are disciplined. They are trustworthy. They are hardworking. They are loyal. A Micro-Loan Program may be the only thing standing before them and public assistance or even homelessness, both of which could wind up costing the state more in the long run than a Micro-Loan Program would. An investment in our state's Veterans is an investment in our state's future.

**Raised Bill 1071 AAC Annual Briefings Regarding Group Life Insurance Policies Offered to Members of the National Guard** is another NGACT initiative. There are two life insurance programs authorized by Congress that are the only two payroll deductible life insurance programs authorized. Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is briefed to all Guardsmen as they fill out their enlistment paperwork and is updated annually naming their beneficiaries and amounts to each. Many years ago,



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

MILITARY DEPARTMENT  
 THE WILLIAM A. O'NEILL ARMORY  
 360 BROAD STREET  
 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105-3795

March 1, 2011

Honorable Andrew M. Maynard  
 Honorable John "Jack" F. Hennessy  
 Co-Chairpersons  
 Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
 Room 509A, Capitol  
 Hartford, CT 06106

RE: S.B. No. 995 (Raised) AAC State Military Accounts  
S.B. No. 996 (Raised) AAC the State Military Support Team  
H.B. No. 6419 (Raised) AAC the Composition of the Military Department and the  
qualifications of the Adjutant General  
S.B. No. 1071 (Raised) AAC Annual Briefings Regarding Group Life Insurance Policies  
Offered to Members of the National Guard

I write to express the Connecticut Military Department's (CTMD's) support for three bills (SB 995, SB 996 and HR 6419) and opposition to one bill (SB 1071).

With the nation still confronted by the need to support the war in Afghanistan and military operations on Iraq along with peacekeeping and support operations throughout the world, the CTMD remains fully engaged in the training, equipping, mobilizing and demobilizing large numbers of Connecticut's soldiers and airmen. With just under 100 soldiers and airmen currently deployed, we continue to reconstitute a force that at last year's peak impacted nearly 1,300 of our soldiers, airmen and their families. We are pleased that the majority of these members back drilling with us again here at home.

Continuing engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan present a seemingly never ending list of challenges for CTMD. With our continuing operational tempo, CTMD is challenged to foster service and spirit de corps within our state's armed forces. To that end, CTMD strives to ensure programs that benefit the quality of life for our members and their families. We also seek to maintain adequate facilities and robust training opportunities for our forces and to provide emergency response assets to the state and nation.

SB 995 provides the CTMD with three revolving accounts necessary to facilitate the missions of the armed forces of the state, which includes the National Guard and state militia. The bill provides for a "billeting account," which facilitates the operation of our transient quarters at Camp Niantic. The quarters at Camp Niantic serve to house military forces when training at the Camp and nearby Stones Ranch Military Reservation. It is also available to members and their families on a space available basis. The quarters fund is currently operated by a military committee. This bill will allow the account to be operated by the state military department.

The bill also provides for the "Morale, Welfare and Recreation" revolving account, which is also currently run by military committee. This account is used to support programs designed to enhance the quality of life for our members of the armed forces and their families. For example, under the program recreational equipment is made available, so that when members visit Camp Niantic or other military facilities, such equipment is available.

The bill also provides for a revolving account for the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC). The NEDTC (see attachment and visit the website) is a premier training facility for civilian and military disaster response personnel. The NEDTC offers unique and exciting hands-on training focused on preparing civilian and military disaster responders for real-world disaster situations. As the operations at NEDTC are funded through various sources, including grants, the revolving account will facilitate military and emergency response training at the facility.

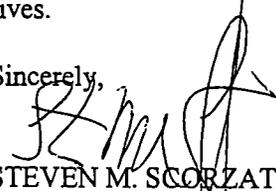
SB 996 provides authority for the CTMD to equip Connecticut Civil Support Team (see fact sheet) with flashing lights. As the Civil Support Team (CST) is charged to respond anywhere within the state in a timely fashion, flashing lights will enhance the response times and safety. Our CST members are highly training, dedicated military professionals, who are on call 24/7. Permitting them authority for flashing vehicle lights is well founded.

HR 6419 updates section 27-19 of Connecticut General Statutes, which provides for the qualifications of the Adjutant General. The qualifications do not currently specify a minimum federally recognized military rank that must be held by the Adjutant General. As the position is both a state commissioner and general officer, it only makes sense to ensure minimal qualifications for those selected to fill the position. Additionally, the bill provides for the composition of the Military Department, defining the parameters of Adjutant General's command. The bill will facilitate military service in the state by ensuring the qualifications of the Adjutant General.

Finally, CTMD opposes SB 1071. This bill mandates that the Adjutant General provide a venue and time for insurance sales to members of the state armed forces. Currently, state-sponsored insurance is offered in passive methods to our members. To require the Adjutant General to carve time out of training and operational schedules to provide a venue for insurance sales sets a precedent for other similar venues to be required. Moreover, training is funded by the federal government. In order to mandate this sort of venue to be set aside, it should be conducted in a state status. Currently, CTMD is not funded for State-funded training for our members.

CTMD continues to look upon the current environment as one filled with opportunity to better serve the needs of soldiers, airmen and our citizens. CTMD remains resolute in our commitment to provide the best for our state's armed forces so that we can continue to effectively respond to both state and federally tasked missions. The CTMD is thankful for the Select Committee on Veteran's Affairs support of our legislative initiatives.

Sincerely,

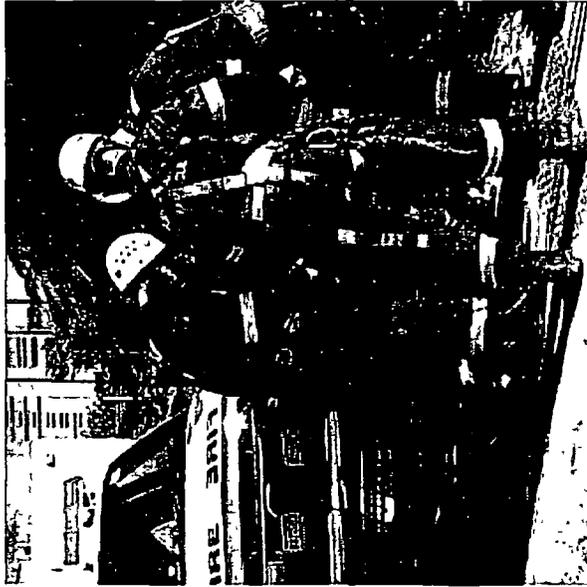
  
STEVEN M. SCORZATO  
Brigadier General (Connecticut)  
Deputy Adjutant General

Enclosures  
As



Contact Share th

SB 995



**The New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC) is one of the most unique training facilities in the world.**

The NEDTC is a premier training facility for civilian and military disaster response personnel. The NEDTC offers unique and exciting hands-on training focused on preparing civilian and military disaster responders for

## Elements

- Identify Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear agents and substances, assess current and projected consequences, advise on response measures and assist with requests for additional support
- Mandated by law
- Receive more than 600 hours of high-tech training by agencies such as Federal Emergency Management Agency, Dept. of Energy, Dept. of Justice, and the Environmental Protection Agency
- 55 CSTs are located in each state and U.S. territory and Washington D.C.; two in CA
- Alert and on standby 24/7
- Deployable within 90 minutes (advance team); regular team deployable within three hours
- Operates specialized equipment including a specialized communications vehicle (Unified Command Suite), and an analytical laboratory system with a full suite of chemical, biological, and radiological analysis equipment

### Example of CST Operations:

- Hurricane Katrina recovery, 2001 World Trade Center attacks, Space Shuttle Columbia recovery, Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, and various Political Party Conventions

### Funding:

- Federally resourced, trained, equipped, and sustained, yet state controlled

# WMD CST



### *Broad range capabilities at a moment's notice*

**Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (WMD CST) Mission:** Assesses hazards, advises civil authorities, and facilitates military support during emergencies and incidents of suspected weapons of mass destruction. In addition, the CST advises civilian responders on appropriate actions through on-site testing and expert consultation, and assists and facilitates in the arrival of follow-on state and federal military forces.

**Overview:** The Adjutant General either employs the WMD CST to support the state response under the direction of the governor or to support another state's response under a supported governor.

The WMD CST is comprised of 22 full-time Army and Air National Guard personnel divided into six sections: command, operations, communications, administration/logistics, medical, and survey. Each unit encompasses 14 Army Military Occupational Skills and 57 Air Force Specialty Codes.

Units are assigned vehicles including a command vehicle, operations trailer, a communications vehicle called the Unified Command Suite (which provides a broad range of communications capabilities including satellite communications), an Analytical Laboratory System vehicle (containing a full suite of analysis equipment to support the determination of the hazard) and other general purpose vehicles. The WMD CST normally deploys using its assigned vehicles, but can be airlifted if required.



*"Homeland Defense is mission one for the National Guard. Governors count on the National Guard to be the first military responder and call on Guard assets at their disposal within the first hours of an event."*

*~LTG H Steven Blum, Chief, National Guard Bureau*

**Learn More:** <http://www.ngb.army.mil/features/HomelandDefense/cst/factsheet.html>

For more information contact NGB Public Affairs (Media Desk) 703-607-2584