
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 861

AN ACT WAIVING CERTAIN MEDICAL MARIJUANA FEES FOR VETERANS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to waive the combined \$100 application and renewal fee for medical marijuana for qualifying veterans. Under the bill, a veteran qualifies for the fee waiver if he or she was honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from active service in the U.S. Armed Forces (U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force, and any reserve component of these branches, including the Connecticut National Guard performing duty under Title 32 of the U.S. Code (e.g., certain Homeland Security missions)).

The existing \$100 fee for applications and renewals is credited to the General Fund and composed of a \$25 registration fee and \$75 administrative fee (Conn. Agencies Regs. § 21a-408-29). By law, medical marijuana registrations are valid for up to one year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

HB 5592, favorably reported by the Veterans' Affairs Committee, expands the general definition of "veteran" under state law to include those released with an other than honorable discharge based on specified qualifying conditions (e.g., military sexual trauma experience, a qualifying mental health condition, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression), as determined under the bill. In doing so, it expands eligibility for any statutory programs or benefits that reference this definition.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/18/2021)