



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5404

February Session, 2024



**AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE AND
THE DRIVER'S LICENSE ENDORSEMENT TO OPERATE FIRE
APPARATUS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 14-36a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2024*):

4 (d) (1) A license of any class that contains the designation "Q"
5 indicates eligibility to operate fire apparatus. A "Q" endorsement shall
6 signify that the holder has been trained to operate fire apparatus in
7 accordance with standards established by the Commission on Fire
8 Prevention and Control. [No such]

9 (2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, no
10 "Q" endorsement shall be issued to any person until [he or she] such
11 person demonstrates personally to the commissioner, or the
12 commissioner's designee, including the Connecticut Fire Academy, any
13 regional fire school or the chief local fire official of any municipality as
14 defined in section 7-323j, by means of testing in a representative vehicle
15 that such person possesses the skills necessary for operation of fire
16 apparatus.

17 (B) If the holder of a license of any class is (i) a veteran who applies
 18 to the commissioner for a "Q" endorsement not later than two years after
 19 the date of discharge from the military and who, not more than two
 20 years prior to such discharge, held a military operator's license to
 21 operate a motor vehicle that is the equivalent of a motor vehicle that
 22 carries a classification between Class 6 and Class 13, inclusive, under the
 23 Federal Highway Administration vehicle classification system, or (ii) a
 24 member of the armed forces or the National Guard who applies to the
 25 commissioner for a "Q" endorsement and who currently holds a military
 26 operator's license to operate a motor vehicle that is the equivalent of a
 27 motor vehicle that carries a classification between Class 6 and Class 13,
 28 inclusive, under the Federal Highway Administration vehicle
 29 classification system, the commissioner shall waive the requirement
 30 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision to demonstrate that such
 31 veteran or member possesses the skills necessary for operation of fire
 32 apparatus. The commissioner shall prescribe the form and manner by
 33 which such veteran or member shall apply for such waiver. As used in
 34 this subparagraph, "veteran" and "armed forces" have the same
 35 meanings as provided in section 27-103.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2024 | 14-36a(d) |

VA *Joint Favorable Subst.*