



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 6747

LCO No. 3100



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
REP. NOLAN, 39th Dist.

**AN ACT EXCLUDING VETERANS' FEDERAL SERVICE-CONNECTED
DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR PURPOSES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR
ASSISTANCE FROM A PUBLIC DEFENDER.**

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

- 1 That section 51-279 of the general statutes be amended to provide
- 2 that, if a criminal defendant has requested representation by a public
- 3 defender based on indigency, any determination as to such defendant's
- 4 financial ability at the time of such request to secure competent legal
- 5 representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal
- 6 representation shall disregard any service-connected disability benefits
- 7 administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Statement of Purpose:

To exclude veterans' federal service-connected disability benefits from
consideration when determining eligibility for assistance from a public
defender based on indigency.