

Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5296 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PERSONAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR
Title: NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVE DUTY PAY.

Vote Date: 3/10/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/24/2026

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Kurt Vail, 52nd Dist.

Rep. Gary Turco, 27th Dist.

Rep. Juan Candelaria, 95th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

Members of the National Guard do not earn a lot of money when on active-duty orders; State Active Duty pay comes out to \$80 per day. More often than not, when responding to active-duty orders guardsmembers are temporarily forgoing day jobs and other sources of income. In order to alleviate financial burden on Guard members, this bill exempts active-duty pay from the state income tax.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

Because of the high cost of exempting all active duty pay from income tax, the substitute language narrows the scope of the bill to only exempt State Active Duty pay from income tax.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Katie Zarzycka, President, National Guard Association of Connecticut](#): Ms. Zarzycka expressed her support for this bill and explained the importance of State Active Duty orders to mobilizing the National Guard during state emergencies. She described the negligible pay that guardsmen receive while under State Active Duty orders; a private receives \$80 per day,

whereas working on minimum wage for eight hours would earn them \$135. She stressed the importance of affording National Guard members some amount of financial relief as a reward for their dedication and service.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Sam Sims

Date: 3/13/26