
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5412

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACCOUNT.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the “Military Department Emergency Response” account as a separate, nonlapsing account for the adjutant general to administer. Under the bill, the account must cover costs:

1. the state incurs in responding to an emergency (for example, a natural disaster or civil emergency), and
2. when federal funds are not immediately available for this purpose, subject to gubernatorial approval and in consultation with the emergency services and public protection commissioner.

The bill requires (1) the account to hold any money the law requires or allows to be deposited in it and (2) any balance remaining in the account at the end of any fiscal year to be carried over for the next fiscal year.

Under the bill, the treasurer must transfer \$500,000 for FY 27 from the Military Relief Fund to the account.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

BACKGROUND

Military Relief Fund

The Military Relief Fund gives monetary grants to service members and their families who are experiencing financial hardship due to (1) military service or (2) a serious injury or illness or the death of the service member or immediate family member. By law, the Connecticut Military Department is responsible for determining applicants’

eligibility and disbursing aid, to the extent funds are available (CGS § 27-100a; Conn. Agencies Regs., § 27-100a-1 et seq.).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/10/2026)