

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 166 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, KULIK, HELM, McNEILL, M. MACKENZIE, GILLEN, BROOKS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HOWARD, O'MARA AND POLINCHOCK, DECEMBER 10, 2021

AS AMENDED, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 26, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State Council on Interstate Educational Opportunity
2 for Military Children and the Military Interstate Children's
3 Compact Commission to expand eligibility in the Interstate
4 Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to
5 members of the National Guard and Reserve who are not or did
6 not serve on active duty.

7 WHEREAS, The act of February 2, 2012 (P.L.42, No.6), known as
8 the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military
9 Children Act, establishes the State Council on Interstate
10 Educational Opportunity for Military Children and authorizes the
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Interstate Compact on
12 Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Compact); and

13 WHEREAS, The compact, which was developed jointly by the
14 Council of State Government's National Center for Interstate
15 Compacts, the United States Department of Defense, numerous
16 national associations and Federal and State officials, eases
17 education transition issues faced by the children of active duty
18 service members transferring between school districts and
19 states; and

1       WHEREAS, It is the purpose of this compact to remove  
2 challenges to educational success imposed on children of  
3 military families because of frequent moves and deployment of  
4 their parents in the key transitional areas of enrollment,  
5 placement, attendance, eligibility and graduation; and

6       WHEREAS, Children of active duty members of the uniformed  
7 services, National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders,  
8 commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
9 Administration and Public Health Service and members or veterans  
10 who are medically discharged or retired for one year are  
11 eligible for assistance under the compact; and

12       WHEREAS, The compact also covers students of members who  
13 perish on active duty for a period of one year following their  
14 death; and

15       WHEREAS, The compact does not apply to inactive members of  
16 the National Guard and Reserve; and

17       WHEREAS, With approximately 19,000 soldiers, the Pennsylvania  
18 Army National Guard, a reserve component of the United States  
19 Army, and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, a reserve  
20 component of the United States Air Force, play an important role  
21 in the nation's defense and supporting the Commonwealth of  
22 Pennsylvania in times of need; and

23       WHEREAS, Military members defend the Constitution of the  
24 United States and will go wherever they are asked, securing and  
25 facilitating a smooth transition so the members' children can  
26 continue to develop the childrens' education is a great benefit  
27 to the families; and

28       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owes a debt of  
29 gratitude to all those who wear the uniform in this country for  
30 the ethics of their service and willingness to volunteer; and

1       WHEREAS, The inclusion of National Guard and Reserve members  
2 who are not or did not serve on active duty would help bring  
3 consistent educational support to the children of these service  
4 members; and

5       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania reinforces its  
6 membership in a commitment to the Interstate Compact on  
7 Educational Opportunity for Military Children and its commitment  
8 to military students to remove all educational barriers for  
9 military families; therefore be it

10       RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania House of Representatives urge  
11 the State Council on Interstate Educational Opportunity for  
12 Military Children and the Military Interstate Children's Compact  
13 Commission to expand eligibility in the Interstate Compact on  
14 Educational Opportunity for Military Children to members of the  
15 National Guard and Reserve who are not or did not serve on  
16 active duty; and be it further

17       RESOLVED, THAT THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES URGE <--  
18 THE STATE COUNCIL ON INTERSTATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR  
19 MILITARY CHILDREN AND THE MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT  
20 COMMISSION TO EXPAND THE ELIGIBILITY PERIOD IN THE INTERSTATE  
21 COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN FOR:

22           (1) CHILDREN OF ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED  
23 SERVICES, NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE ON ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS,  
24 COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
25 ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND MEMBERS OR  
26 VETERANS WHO ARE MEDICALLY DISCHARGED OR RETIRED FOR A PERIOD  
27 OF TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE DISCHARGE OR RETIREMENT; AND

28           (2) STUDENTS OF MEMBERS WHO PERISH ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR A  
29 PERIOD OF TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE MEMBER'S DEATH;

30 AND BE IT FURTHER

1       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
2 the State Council on Interstate Educational Opportunity for  
3 Military Children, the Military Interstate Children's Compact  
4 Commission, the Council of State Government's National Center  
5 for Interstate Compacts and the United States Department of  
6 Defense.