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House of Representatives Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Harrisburg

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

March 22, 2012

SUBJECT:

Proposed legislation - Considering military education and training to satisfy licensing or

COMMITTEES: GAME AND FISHERIES

HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION

TOURISM

certification requirements

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Dovle Heffley

While serving in the armed forces, veterans gain skills, knowledge, and training that can translate directly into the civilian world. In turn, many employers can benefit from these transferable skills. To honor our returning veterans' service and ease their transition home, I feel it necessary to ensure they are not made to jump through hoops when applying for a license or certification issued by the Commonwealth that require qualifications they have already received while serving in the military.

I am introducing legislation to ensure that a service member's military education and training are taken into consideration for the purpose of fulfilling requirements for professional credentials. Under this legislation, an issuing state agency must consider whether a veteran's military service, education, training and service experience satisfies certain or all licensing or certification requirements. This will prevent the duplication of training and education of a veteran and get them into a civilian career faster.

The work ethic and leadership skills of a veteran are invaluable and coveted by many employers. Veterans also gain a variety of training and education that can lead to family sustaining jobs upon returning home. At the very least, we owe our veterans our support as they begin their transition into civilian life. I believe my legislation will help to make that transition just a little bit easier.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation please contact Linda Schylaske <u>lschylas@pahousegop.com</u> or call 717-260-6139.