

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1868

Sponsor: SENATOR AUMENT

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1 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 1 through 8, by striking out all of
2 said lines and inserting

3 Amending Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed))
4 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for
5 military and veterans' licensure.

6 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 11 through 18; pages 2 through 7,
7 lines 1 through 30; by striking out all of said lines on said
8 pages and inserting

9 Section 1. Title 63 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
10 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 33

12 MILITARY AND VETERANS' LICENSURE

13 Sec.

14 3301. Definitions.

15 3302. Bureau requirements.

16 3303. Licensing for military applicants.

17 3304. Relevant military experience.

18 3305. Renewal of license for deployed servicemembers.

19 3306. Fees.

20 3307. Reports.

21 § 3301. Definitions.

22 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
23 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
24 context clearly indicates otherwise:

25 "Bureau." The Bureau of Professional and Occupational
26 Affairs in the Department of State.

27 "License." A registration, permit, certificate or license
28 issued by a licensing board.

29 "Licensing board." A departmental or administrative board or
30 commission under the bureau.

31 "Military applicant." A servicemember, veteran or military
32 spouse who submits an application for a license and
33 documentation demonstrating status as a servicemember, veteran
34 or military spouse.

35 "Military Occupational Codes Crosswalk." A module created by

1 the bureau to provide guidance when evaluating servicemembers'
2 and veterans' applications for licensure to identify skills,
3 experience, credentials and education that have been obtained in
4 the military and crosswalking those skills, experience,
5 credentials and education into substitute licensure
6 requirements.

7 "Military spouse." The spouse of a servicemember or veteran.
8 The term includes an unmarried spouse of a deceased
9 servicemember where the servicemember died within one year prior
10 to the date an application for a license is submitted to a
11 licensing board.

12 "Servicemember." An active duty member of the armed forces
13 of the United States, a reserve component or the national guard
14 of a state.

15 "Veteran." A former servicemember who was discharged from
16 active duty under conditions other than dishonorable.

17 § 3302. Bureau requirements.

18 The bureau shall:

19 (1) Include a question on an application for licensure,
20 renewal and reactivation asking whether the individual
21 submitting the application is a servicemember, veteran or
22 military spouse.

23 (2) Expedite an application for a military applicant who
24 submits documentation demonstrating status as a
25 servicemember, veteran or military spouse.

26 (3) Update the Military Occupational Codes Crosswalk as
27 necessary to accommodate changes in a license or military
28 skills, experience, credentials and education.

29 (4) Develop criteria for temporary licensure at the
30 discretion of each licensing board specific to a military
31 applicant.

32 (5) Submit to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
33 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin and post on each
34 licensing board's publicly accessible Internet website the
35 licensure process for military applicants.

36 § 3303. Licensing for military applicants.

37 (a) Issuance.--A licensing board may issue a license to a
38 military applicant who does not meet the educational
39 requirements for a license if the military applicant:

40 (1) Submits an application and fee as prescribed by the
41 board by regulation.

42 (2) Passes all exams required for licensure.

43 (3) Has engaged in active practice for at least two of
44 the previous five years before submitting the application.
45 Relevant military service experience and official duties
46 shall be credited in the calculation of the number of years
47 of practice in the profession.

48 (4) Meets all other noneducational requirements for
49 licensure.

50 (5) Meets necessary qualifications outlined in section
51 3304.

1 (b) Temporary license.--The following shall apply:

2 (1) A licensing board may issue a temporary license to a
3 military applicant who:

4 (i) Is assigned to a duty station in this
5 Commonwealth or has established legal residence in this
6 Commonwealth.

7 (ii) Complies with the licensing board's
8 requirements for temporary licensure for a limited period
9 of time at the discretion of the licensing board while
10 the military applicant completes additional requirements
11 for licensure in this Commonwealth.

12 (2) The temporary license shall be valid until the
13 earlier of:

14 (i) six months after the date of issuance of the
15 temporary license by the licensing board;

16 (ii) the date a license is granted; or

17 (iii) the date a notice to deny a license is issued.

18 § 3304. Relevant military experience.

19 A licensing board shall use the Military Occupational Codes
20 Crosswalk to facilitate the acceptance of military practice or
21 experience if training or education requirements for licensure
22 are incomplete. The Military Occupational Codes Crosswalk shall
23 include:

24 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in
25 calculating a military applicant's years of practice or
26 experience in an occupation or a profession, a licensing
27 board shall give credit to the military applicant for
28 relevant experience obtained as a servicemember.

29 (2) A licensing board shall give credit for training and
30 education provided by the military and completed by a
31 military applicant toward training or education requirements
32 for licensure, if the training or education is determined by
33 the licensing board to be substantially equivalent to the
34 training or education required for licensure in this
35 Commonwealth.

36 § 3305. Renewal of license for deployed servicemembers.

37 (a) Renewal application submission before deployment.--The
38 following shall apply:

39 (1) A servicemember who is scheduled to be deployed
40 outside this Commonwealth may apply for renewal of a license
41 if the deployment will occur when the license is eligible for
42 renewal.

43 (2) The servicemember may submit to the licensing board
44 all requirements for renewal prior to deployment outside this
45 Commonwealth.

46 (3) The licensing board shall provide a review of the
47 application and information received.

48 (4) If the licensing board finds that a requirement is
49 not met, the licensing board shall notify the servicemember
50 of the deficiency.

51 (5) The licensing board shall process the application

1 upon the opening of the next licensing renewal.

2 (b) Reactivation after deployment.--A licensing board may
3 reactivate a license of a servicemember after the expiration of
4 the license without penalty if the renewal period occurred
5 during deployment outside of this Commonwealth. The
6 servicemember must seek reactivation of the license within one
7 month following the end of the deployment.

8 (c) Extension of continuing education.--A licensing board
9 shall extend a requirement to complete continuing education or
10 continued competency requirements for up to six months after the
11 end of deployment outside of this Commonwealth of a
12 servicemember if the servicemember meets all other requirements
13 for license renewal.

14 (d) Military spouse.--This section shall apply to a military
15 spouse if the military spouse resides with the servicemember
16 during deployment outside of this Commonwealth.

17 § 3306. Fees.

18 A licensing board may not assess a fee for an initial
19 licensure of a military spouse who relocates to this
20 Commonwealth as a result of the servicemember's military orders.

21 § 3307. Reports.

22 (a) Submission and content.--The bureau shall submit an
23 annual report to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
24 Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee of the
25 Senate, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
26 Professional Licensure Committee of the House of
27 Representatives, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
28 Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the
29 Senate and the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness
30 Committee of the House of Representatives. The report shall
31 include:

32 (1) The number of military applicants.

33 (2) The number of military applicants who were approved
34 for licensure.

35 (3) The number of military applicants who were denied
36 licensure, including data on the reasons for denial.

37 (4) Data on the licensing board's application processing
38 times for military applicants including reasons for delays.

39 (5) Recommendations on ways to improve the licensing
40 board's ability to meet the licensing needs of
41 servicemembers, veterans and military spouses.

42 (b) Expiration.--This section shall expire six years after
43 the effective date of this section.

44 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 120 days.