
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2321 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY HEFFLEY, GABLER, AUMENT, BOBACK, BROOKS,
CREIGHTON, EMRICK, FARRY, GEORGE, GILLEN, GROVE, HESS,
HORNAMAN, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, MAJOR, MILLARD, MILLER, MURT,
PASHINSKI, PICKETT, READSHAW, ROCK, TOEPEL, TRUITT,
VULAKOVICH AND GEIST, APRIL 18, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 18, 2012

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 51 (Military Affairs) and 53 (Municipalities
2 Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in
3 professional and occupational licenses, expanding the scope
4 of licensure and further providing for definitions and for
5 retention and certification; and making an editorial change.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. The heading of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

10 CHAPTER 75

11 [PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL] LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES

12 Section 2. Sections 7501 and 7502 of Title 51 are amended to
13 read:

14 § 7501. [Definition] Definitions.

15 [As used in this chapter, the word "person" means any] The
16 following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have
17 the meanings given to them in this section unless the context

1 clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Armed forces." The United States Armed Forces. The term
3 includes:

4 (1) A reserve component of a branch of the United States
5 military.

6 (2) The National Guard of the United States.

7 (3) The Pennsylvania National Guard.

8 "Veteran." An individual[, whether male or female,] who
9 [may, have been, is now or may hereafter become engaged in the
10 service of]:

11 (1) is serving in the [United States of America or its
12 allies as a member of the] armed forces[, or of the merchant
13 marine thereof, or of any auxiliary thereof subject to
14 military discipline]; or

15 (2) has been discharged from the armed forces under
16 conditions other than dishonorable.

17 § 7502. Retention of licenses and certifications of persons
18 entering military service.

19 (a) General rule.--[Any person] A veteran licensed or
20 certified by [the Department of State, Department of Labor and
21 Industry, Department of Education, Insurance Department,
22 Department of Banking or the Municipal Police Officers'
23 Education and Training Commission or pursuant to the act of
24 October 10, 1974 (P.L.705, No.235), known as the Lethal Weapons
25 Training Act,] a Commonwealth agency to practice any profession
26 or to work at any trade or occupation, who [heretofore has or
27 shall thereafter enlist or be inducted or drafted into the
28 military or naval service of the United States in time of war or
29 preparation for national defense during a national emergency,]
30 has been called to active duty for more than 30 days shall not

1 thereby forfeit his or her current license or registration and
2 shall be exempt from any continuing educational requirements or
3 in-service training requirements.

4 (b) Renewal of license or certification following
5 discharge.--[Any such person] A veteran, upon presentation of a
6 discharge from such service within one year from date thereof,
7 and upon payment of the fee prescribed by law for the current
8 renewal period only, shall be entitled to a renewal of his or
9 her license, certification or registration in the same manner as
10 though such renewal had been made prior to the expiration of his
11 or her last preceding renewal, as though all intermediate
12 renewal fees had been paid and as though all continuing
13 education or in-service training requirements have been
14 satisfied.

15 (c) Exemptions.--A veteran's military service, education,
16 training and service experience shall be taken into
17 consideration by the entities listed in subsection (a) to
18 determine whether a licensing or certification requirement can
19 be exempted. If the veteran is lacking in a requirement, the
20 veteran shall only be responsible for that requirement.

21 Section 3. Section 2167(d) of Title 53 is amended to read:
22 § 2167. Police training.

23 * * *

24 (d) Mandatory waiver request.--If a police officer is unable
25 to attend in-service training due to service in the military or
26 National Guard or as a result of injury sustained in service as
27 a police officer, the officer's employer shall request a waiver
28 under section 2164(6) (relating to powers and duties of
29 commission). A police officer whose employer fails to request a
30 waiver as required under this subsection shall not be

1 decertified unless, upon return to service, the officer fails to
2 participate in such in-service training as the commission deems
3 appropriate in accordance with this chapter and 51 Pa.C.S. Ch.
4 75 (relating to [professional and occupational] licenses and
5 certificates).

6 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.