
HOUSE BILL 2167

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 2nd Special Session

By Representatives Green, McCoy, Hurst, Hunt, Bailey, Tharinger, Ladenburg, Hansen, Finn, Appleton, Jenkins, McCune, Lytton, Roberts, Kirby, Fitzgibbon, Kelley, Liias, Ryu, Kenney, Maxwell, Ormsby, Dahlquist, and Orwall

Read first time 12/12/11. Referred to Committee on Business & Financial Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to procedures allowing certain military spouses to
2 seek employment in state-licensed professional occupations after
3 relocating to Washington; and adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The lives of military families are dominated
6 by frequent deployments, relocations, and extended periods of single
7 parenthood. Military spouses are some of the most mobile populations
8 in our country, making the maintenance of professional licenses a
9 significant obstacle. According to the 2010 defense management data
10 center, there are thirty-three thousand three hundred eighty active
11 duty and ten thousand eight hundred thirty-seven reserve military
12 spouses residing in Washington. Military families depend on two
13 incomes and want to achieve their goals and aspirations. It is the
14 intent of the legislature to recognize the sacrifices made by military
15 families in service to our country and our state and to help alleviate
16 the hardships military families face due to their highly transient
17 life.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) For the purposes of this section,
2 "authority" means any board, commission, or other authority for
3 issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or permit under this
4 title.

5 (2) To the extent resources are available:

6 (a) Each authority shall establish procedures to expedite the
7 issuance of a license, certificate, or permit to perform professional
8 services regulated by each such authority to a person:

9 (i) Who is certified or licensed in another state to perform
10 professional services in that state;

11 (ii) Whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to
12 Washington; and

13 (iii) Who left employment in the other state to accompany the
14 person's spouse to Washington.

15 (b) The procedure must include: A process for issuing the person
16 a license, certificate, registration, or permit, if, in the opinion of
17 the authority, the requirements for licensure, certification,
18 registration, or obtaining a permit of such other state are
19 substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.

20 (c) Each authority in this title shall develop a method and adopt
21 rules to authorize a person who meets the criteria in (a)(i) through
22 (iii) of this subsection to perform services regulated by the authority
23 in Washington by issuing the person a temporary license, certificate,
24 registration, or permit for a limited period of time to allow the
25 person to perform services regulated by the authority while completing
26 any specific requirements that may be required in Washington that were
27 not required in the other state in which the person is licensed,
28 certified, or registered, or has a permit, unless the authority finds
29 that the requirements for a license, certificate, registration, or
30 permit of the other state are substantially unequal to Washington
31 standards.

32 (d) An applicant must state in the application that he or she:

33 (i) Has requested verification from the other state or states that
34 the person is currently licensed, certified, registered, or has a
35 permit; and

36 (ii) Is not subject to any pending investigation, charges, or
37 disciplinary action by the regulatory body of the other state or
38 states.

1 (e) If the authority finds reasonable cause to believe that an
2 applicant falsely affirmed or stated either of the requirements under
3 (d)(i) or (ii) of this subsection, the authority may summarily suspend
4 the license, certificate, registration, or permit pending an
5 investigation or further action to discipline or revoke the license,
6 certificate, registration, or permit.

7 (f) The regulating authority for the department of licensing, the
8 department of health, and the department of labor and industries shall
9 appear before the joint committee on veteran and military affairs in
10 December 2012 to inform the committee as to their efforts to implement
11 the requirements of this chapter.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute a
13 new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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