
SENATE BILL 5970

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators O'Ban, McCoy, Schoesler, Hobbs, Hatfield, Conway, Rolfes, Holmquist Newbry, and Braun

Read first time 01/13/14. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to evaluating military training and experience
2 toward meeting licensing requirements; amending RCW 18.340.010,
3 18.340.020, 19.105.570, 42.44.220, 46.82.440, 64.36.350, and 67.08.320;
4 adding new sections to chapter 18.340 RCW; and repealing RCW 18.08.500,
5 18.11.290, 18.16.300, 18.39.570, 18.43.190, 18.85.490, 18.96.230,
6 18.140.290, 18.145.150, 18.165.310, 18.170.310, 18.185.310, 18.210.230,
7 18.220.211, 18.280.200, and 18.300.160.

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

9 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.340.010 and 2011 2nd sp.s. c 5 s 1 are each amended
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The lives of military families are dominated by frequent
12 deployments, relocations, and extended periods of single parenthood.
13 Military spouses are some of the most mobile populations in our
14 country, making the maintenance of professional licenses a significant
15 obstacle. According to the 2010 defense management data center, there
16 are thirty-three thousand three hundred eighty active duty and ten
17 thousand eight hundred thirty-seven reserve military spouses residing
18 in Washington. Military families depend on two incomes and want to
19 achieve their goals and aspirations. It is the intent of the

1 legislature to recognize the sacrifices made by military families in
2 service to our country and our state and to help alleviate the
3 hardships military families face due to their highly transient life.

4 (2) Military service members work in many different professions and
5 occupations while in service. These members frequently receive
6 extensive training and experience through their service. However,
7 service members often have a difficult time converting their military
8 training and experience into civilian training, accreditation, or
9 employment when they leave the service. As a result, service members
10 face significant obstacles in making a smooth transition to civilian
11 life, including finding jobs for which they are qualified or obtaining
12 licenses in professions for which they have been trained and performed
13 while in service. It is the intent of the legislature to recognize the
14 training and experience gained through military service and to
15 eliminate the barriers for allowing service members to successfully
16 reenter the civilian workforce.

17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 18.340 RCW
18 to read as follows:

19 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
20 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

21 (1) "Authority" means any board, commission, or other authority for
22 issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or permit under this
23 title, chapter 19.105 RCW, chapter 42.44 RCW, chapter 46.82 RCW,
24 chapter 64.36 RCW, and chapter 67.08 RCW.

25 (2) "Military" means any branch of the United States armed forces,
26 the national guard, and armed forces reserves.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.340.020 and 2011 2nd sp.s. c 5 s 2 are each amended
28 to read as follows:

29 ~~(1) ((For the purposes of this section, "authority" means any~~
30 ~~board, commission, or other authority for issuance of a license,~~
31 ~~certificate, registration, or permit under this title.~~

32 ~~(2))~~ To the extent resources are available(~~(+~~

33 ~~(a))~~, each authority shall establish procedures to expedite the
34 issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or permit to perform
35 professional services regulated by each (~~such~~) authority to a person:

1 ~~((+i))~~ (a) Who is ~~((certified or))~~ licensed, certified, or
2 registered, or has a permit in another state to perform professional
3 services in that state;

4 ~~((+ii))~~ (b) Whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to
5 Washington; and

6 ~~((+iii))~~ (c) Who left employment in the other state to accompany
7 the person's spouse to Washington.

8 ~~((+b))~~ (2) The procedure must include a process for issuing the
9 person a license, certificate, registration, or permit, if, in the
10 opinion of the authority, the requirements for licensure,
11 certification, registration, or obtaining a permit of such other state
12 are substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.

13 ~~((+e))~~ (3) Each authority ~~((in this title))~~ shall develop a method
14 and adopt rules to authorize a person who meets the criteria in
15 subsection (1)(a)~~((+i))~~ through ~~((+iii))~~ (c) of this ~~((subsection))~~
16 section to perform services regulated by the authority in Washington by
17 issuing the person a temporary license, certificate, registration, or
18 permit for a limited period of time to allow the person to perform
19 services regulated by the authority while completing any specific
20 additional requirements in Washington that are not related to training
21 or practice standards of the profession that were not required in the
22 other state in which the person is licensed, certified, or registered,
23 or has a permit. Nothing in this section requires the authority to
24 issue a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit if the
25 standards of the other state are substantially unequal to Washington
26 standards.

27 ~~((+d))~~ (4) An applicant must state in the application that he or
28 she:

29 ~~((+i))~~ (a) Has requested verification from the other state or
30 states that the person is currently licensed, certified, registered, or
31 has a permit; and

32 ~~((+ii))~~ (b) Is not subject to any pending investigation, charges,
33 or disciplinary action by the regulatory body of the other state or
34 states.

35 ~~((+e))~~ (5) If the authority finds reasonable cause to believe that
36 an applicant falsely affirmed or stated either of the requirements
37 under ~~((+d)(i) or (ii) of this))~~ subsection (4)(a) or (b) of this

1 section, the authority may summarily suspend the license, certificate,
2 registration, or permit pending an investigation or further action to
3 discipline or revoke the license, certificate, registration, or permit.

4 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 18.340 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Each authority must recognize military training and experience
7 for satisfying any or all requirements for obtaining a license,
8 certificate, registration, or permit for professional services if:

9 (a) The applicant provides sufficient documentation of:

10 (i) The completion of a military training or education program;

11 (ii) Any experience working in an occupational or professional
12 field while in military service;

13 (iii) Any certificate, award, or other acknowledgment of
14 qualification to perform a job or specialized duty; or

15 (iv) Any other relevant training or experience; and

16 (b) The training, experience, or other qualification is
17 substantially equivalent to any or all of the requirements for
18 obtaining the license, certification, registration, or permit for
19 professional services issued by the authority.

20 (2) Each authority shall develop procedures to evaluate military
21 training and experience in relation to any and all requirements for
22 obtaining a license, certificate, registration, or permit for
23 professional services.

24 (3) If an authority determines that the documentation is not
25 substantially equivalent to meet any of the requirements, it must
26 inform the applicant in writing of its decision and identify the
27 specific criteria that were not met. The applicant must be provided an
28 opportunity to submit additional documentation or information that
29 addresses the identified deficiency.

30 (4) Each authority must maintain a list of all military training
31 programs, certificates, awards, or work experience that it has examined
32 and approved in an application that fulfills a requirement for
33 obtaining a license, certification, registration, or permit for
34 professional services. The list must be submitted to the department of
35 veterans affairs by each authority by December 1st of each year.

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 19.105.570 and 2011 c 351 s 17 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the
4 training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director
5 determines that the military training or experience is not
6 substantially equivalent to the standards of this state, as provided in
7 section 4 of this act.

8 **Sec. 6.** RCW 42.44.220 and 2011 c 351 s 18 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the
11 training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director
12 determines that the military training or experience is not
13 substantially equivalent to the standards of this state, as provided in
14 section 4 of this act.

15 **Sec. 7.** RCW 46.82.440 and 2011 c 351 s 19 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the
18 training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director
19 determines that the military training or experience is not
20 substantially equivalent to the standards of this state, as provided in
21 section 4 of this act.

22 **Sec. 8.** RCW 64.36.350 and 2011 c 351 s 20 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the
25 training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director
26 determines that the military training or experience is not
27 substantially equivalent to the standards of this state, as provided in
28 section 4 of this act.

29 **Sec. 9.** RCW 67.08.320 and 2011 c 351 s 21 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the
32 training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director
33 determines that the military training or experience is not

1 substantially equivalent to the standards of this state, as provided in
2 section 4 of this act.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The following acts or parts of acts are
4 each repealed:

5 (1) RCW 18.08.500 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
6 s 1;

7 (2) RCW 18.11.290 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
8 s 2;

9 (3) RCW 18.16.300 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
10 s 3;

11 (4) RCW 18.39.570 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
12 s 4;

13 (5) RCW 18.43.190 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
14 s 5;

15 (6) RCW 18.85.490 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
16 s 6;

17 (7) RCW 18.96.230 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
18 s 7;

19 (8) RCW 18.140.290 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
20 s 8;

21 (9) RCW 18.145.150 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c 351
22 s 9;

23 (10) RCW 18.165.310 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
24 351 s 10;

25 (11) RCW 18.170.310 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
26 351 s 11;

27 (12) RCW 18.185.310 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
28 351 s 12;

29 (13) RCW 18.210.230 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
30 351 s 13;

31 (14) RCW 18.220.211 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
32 351 s 14;

33 (15) RCW 18.280.200 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c
34 351 s 15; and

35 (16) RCW 18.300.160 (Military training or experience) and 2011 c

1 351 s 16.

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