HOUSE BILL 225

C2, F5, J2 3lr0139
CF SB 273

By: **The Speaker (By Request – Administration) and Delegates Anderson, Barkley, Barve, Branch, Braveboy, Dumais, Feldman, Frush, Glass, Hubbard, Hucker, Jameson, A. Kelly, Kipke, Kramer, Lee, Love, Malone, McHale, Minnick, Mitchell, Morhaim, Olszewski, S. Robinson, Rosenberg, ~~and Rudolph~~ Rudolph, James, Frank, Wilson, Krebs, Szeliga, McComas, Weir, DeBoy, Wood, Impallaria, O'Donnell, Elliott, Bromwell, Beitzel, A. Miller, Hammen, Pendergrass, Costa, Cullison, Donoghue, Kach, Murphy, Nathan–Pulliam, Pena–Melnyk, Ready, Reznik, Tarrant, V. Turner, Burns, Davis, Haddaway–Riccio, Hershey, Vaughn, Schuh, Schulz, and Stifler**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2013
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 17, 2013

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013

FOR the purpose of requiring certain licensing units and boards to give credit to certain former service members for relevant military training, education, and experience in connection with the issuance of certain occupational and professional licenses, certificates, and registrations; repealing and recodifying certain provisions of law regarding the renewal of certain occupational or professional licenses and the completion of continuing education or continuing competency requirements for certain members of an armed force deployed outside the State; requiring certain licensing units and boards to issue a temporary expedited license, certification, or registration to certain individuals under certain circumstances; authorizing certain licensing units and boards to issue a temporary license under certain circumstances; ~~authorizing certain health occupations boards to apply to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene for consideration of an alternate process of expedited licensing, certification, or registration under certain circumstances~~ requiring certain

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

health occupations boards to develop certain procedures by which an applicant for a license, certificate, or registration can provide certain notice to the board; requiring each health occupations board to expedite the licensing, certification, or registration process for certain applicants and issue a license, certificate, or registration within a certain number of days under certain circumstances; requiring each health occupations board to assign to certain applicants a certain advisor; requiring each health occupations board to provide certain assistance to certain persons under certain circumstances; requiring the State Superintendent of Schools to expedite educator certification under certain circumstances; authorizing the State Superintendent of Schools to issue a temporary educator certificate under certain circumstances; requiring certain licensing units and boards and the State Department of Education to publish certain information on a certain Web site; authorizing certain licensing units and boards, the Commissioner of Financial Regulation, and the State Board of Education to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop and adopt certain guidelines regarding the awarding of academic credit for military training, coursework, and education; requiring public institutions of higher education to develop and implement certain policies in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Commission; requiring that certain reports on the implementation of this Act be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before ~~a~~ certain ~~date~~ dates; and generally relating to occupational and professional licensing requirements and the crediting, for certain purposes, of certain training, experience, and education of service members, veterans, and military spouses.

BY repealing
Article – Business Regulation
Section 2–111
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Business Regulation
Section 2.5–101 through 2.5–108 to be under the new title "Title 2.5. Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Licensing"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 6–101.1, 13–516(b–1), and 15–113
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Education
Section 10–101(c) and 13–501(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 11–612.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Health Occupations
Section 1–701 through 1–706 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7. Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Licensing"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 2–111 of Article – Business Regulation of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Business Regulation

TITLE 2.5. SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES – LICENSING.

2.5–101.

(A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) (1) "LICENSE" MEANS ANY GRANT OF AUTHORITY TO AN INDIVIDUAL TO PRACTICE AN OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION.

(2) "LICENSE" INCLUDES A CERTIFICATE, PERMIT, OR REGISTRATION.

(C) <u>(1)</u> "MILITARY SPOUSE" MEANS THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

<u>(2) "MILITARY SPOUSE" INCLUDES A SURVIVING SPOUSE OF:</u>

<u>(I) A VETERAN; OR</u>

(II) A SERVICE MEMBER WHO DIED WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE IS SUBMITTED.

(D) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF:

(1) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

(2) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(3) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

(E) "UNIT" MEANS A UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT THAT IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE A LICENSE.

(F) (1) "VETERAN" MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS ~~HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY~~ DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE IS SUBMITTED.

(2) "VETERAN" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS COMPLETED ACTIVE DUTY AND HAS BEEN DISCHARGED FOR MORE THAN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE IS SUBMITTED.

2.5–102.

THIS TITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO LICENSES ISSUED UNDER TITLE 11, SUBTITLE 5 OR SUBTITLE 6 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARTICLE.

2.5–103.

A UNIT MAY ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSEE WHO IS A MEMBER OF AN ARMED FORCE DEPLOYED OUTSIDE THE STATE TO:

(1) RENEW THE LICENSE AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE RENEWAL PERIOD WITHOUT PAYMENT OF A PENALTY OR REINSTATEMENT FEE IF THE LATE RENEWAL IS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE DEPLOYMENT; AND

(2) COMPLETE ANY CONTINUING EDUCATION OR CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AFTER RENEWING THE LICENSE.

2.5–104.

(A) IN CALCULATING AN INDIVIDUAL'S YEARS OF PRACTICE IN AN OCCUPATION OR A PROFESSION, EACH UNIT SHALL GIVE CREDIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL FOR ALL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AS A SERVICE MEMBER.

(B) EACH UNIT SHALL CREDIT ANY TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROVIDED BY THE MILITARY AND COMPLETED BY A SERVICE MEMBER TOWARD ANY TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IF THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION IS DETERMINED BY THE UNIT TO BE:

(1) SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIRED BY THE UNIT; AND

(2) NOT OTHERWISE CONTRARY TO ANY OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENT.

2.5–105.

(A) EACH UNIT SHALL ISSUE AN EXPEDITED TEMPORARY LICENSE TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

(B) A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION IS VALID UNTIL THE EARLIER OF:

(1) 6 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE; OR

(2) THE DATE ON WHICH A LICENSE IS GRANTED OR A NOTICE TO DENY A LICENSE IS ISSUED BY THE UNIT.

(C) AN APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING, IN THE FORM AND MANNER REQUIRED BY THE UNIT:

(1) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT IS A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE;

(2) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HOLDS A VALID LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE;

(3) IF THE APPLICANT IS A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN, PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT IS ASSIGNED TO A DUTY STATION IN THE STATE OR HAS ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE;

(4) IF THE APPLICANT IS A MILITARY SPOUSE, PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT'S SPOUSE IS ASSIGNED TO A DUTY STATION IN THE STATE OR HAS ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE;

(5) IF A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK IS REQUIRED BY THE UNIT FOR LICENSURE, PROOF OF APPLICATION FOR A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK;

(6) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HAS SUBMITTED THE FULL APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE; AND

(7) PAYMENT OF ANY APPLICATION FEE REQUIRED BY THE UNIT.

(D) BEFORE ISSUING A TEMPORARY LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE UNIT SHALL DETERMINE THAT THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN THE OTHER STATE ARE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO, OR EXCEED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR, LICENSURE IN THIS STATE.

2.5–106.

(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A UNIT MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY LICENSE TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO HOLDS A VALID LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE FOR WHICH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE ARE NOT SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN THIS STATE.

(B) A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME, AS DETERMINED BY THE UNIT, TO PERFORM SERVICES REGULATED BY THE UNIT WHILE THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE COMPLETES ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN THIS STATE.

(C) A UNIT MAY NOT ISSUE A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE WOULD POSE A RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, OR SAFETY.

2.5–107.

EACH UNIT SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEB SITE:

(1) THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A TEMPORARY LICENSE UNDER § 2.5–105 OF THIS TITLE AND, IF APPLICABLE, § 2.5–106 OF THIS TITLE; AND

(2) THE PROCESS FOR APPLYING FOR A PERMANENT LICENSE FROM THE UNIT.

2.5–108.

EACH UNIT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS TITLE.

Article – Education

6–101.1.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) (I) "MILITARY SPOUSE" MEANS THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

(II) "MILITARY SPOUSE" INCLUDES A SURVIVING SPOUSE OF:

1. A VETERAN; OR

2. A SERVICE MEMBER WHO DIED WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR AN EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE IS SUBMITTED.

(3) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF:

(I) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

(II) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(III) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

(4) (I) "VETERAN" MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS ~~HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY~~ DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR AN EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE IS SUBMITTED.

(II) "VETERAN" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS COMPLETED ACTIVE DUTY AND HAS BEEN DISCHARGED FOR MORE THAN 1

YEAR BEFORE THE APPLICATION FOR AN EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE IS SUBMITTED.

(B) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL EXPEDITE EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION FOR A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE.

(C) TO QUALIFY FOR EXPEDITED EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION UNDER THIS SECTION, A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE SHALL:

(1) SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION;

(2) HOLD A VALID EDUCATOR LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE;

(3) MEET THE APPLICABLE QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION IN COMAR 13A.12.01.04 AND.05; AND

(4) PAY THE APPLICABLE CERTIFICATION FEE.

(D) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT, AT THE REQUEST OF A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO HOLDS A VALID EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE BUT WHO DOES NOT MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION IN THIS STATE.

(2) A TEMPORARY EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AUTHORIZES THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME, <u>AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT,</u> TO BE EMPLOYED AS AN EDUCATOR IN THE STATE WHILE THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE COMPLETES ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION IN THIS STATE.

(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEB SITE THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING EXPEDITED EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION UNDER THIS SECTION.

(F) THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

10–101.

(c) "Commission" means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

13–501.

(f) "EMS Board" means the State Emergency Medical Services Board.

13–516.

(B–1) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF:

(I) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

(II) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(III) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

(2) (I) IN CALCULATING AN INDIVIDUAL'S YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN AN OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION, THE EMS BOARD SHALL GIVE CREDIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL FOR ALL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AS A SERVICE MEMBER.

(II) THE EMS BOARD SHALL CREDIT ANY TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROVIDED BY THE MILITARY AND COMPLETED BY A SERVICE MEMBER TOWARD ANY TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION IF THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION IS DETERMINED BY THE EMS BOARD TO BE:

1. SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIRED BY THE EMS BOARD; AND

2. NOT OTHERWISE CONTRARY TO ANY OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENT.

15–113.

(A) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, SHALL DEVELOP AND ADOPT GUIDELINES ON AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR A STUDENT'S MILITARY TRAINING, COURSEWORK, AND EDUCATION.

(B) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE GOVERNING BODY OF EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES GOVERNING THE AWARDING OF ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR A STUDENT'S MILITARY TRAINING, COURSEWORK, AND EDUCATION.

Article – Financial Institutions

11–612.2.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) (I) "MILITARY SPOUSE" MEANS THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

(II) "MILITARY SPOUSE" INCLUDES A SURVIVING SPOUSE OF:

1. A VETERAN; OR

2. A SERVICE MEMBER WHO DIED WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE LICENSE APPLICATION, RENEWAL, OR CHANGE OF STATUS IS SUBMITTED.

(3) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF:

(I) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

(II) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(III) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

(4) (I) "VETERAN" MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS ~~HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY~~ DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE LICENSE APPLICATION, RENEWAL, OR CHANGE OF STATUS IS SUBMITTED.

(II) "VETERAN" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS COMPLETED ACTIVE DUTY AND HAS BEEN DISCHARGED FOR MORE THAN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE LICENSE APPLICATION, RENEWAL, OR CHANGE OF STATUS IS SUBMITTED.

(B) TO EXPEDITE THE RENEWAL OR CHANGE OF STATUS OF A LICENSE FOR A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, THE COMMISSIONER:

(1) SHALL WAIVE, AS APPLICABLE, THE STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK; AND

(2) MAY WAIVE OR SUSPEND ANY OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS TO THE EXTENT THAT THE WAIVER OR SUSPENSION DOES NOT RESULT IN THE FAILURE TO MEET THE MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS SET FORTH IN 12 U.S.C. CHAPTER 51 AND THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER IT.

(C) TO EXPEDITE THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO HOLDS A VALID MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE IN ANOTHER STATE, THE COMMISSIONER:

(1) SHALL WAIVE THE STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK; AND

(2) MAY WAIVE OR SUSPEND ANY OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS TO THE EXTENT THAT THE WAIVER OR SUSPENSION DOES NOT RESULT IN THE FAILURE TO MEET THE MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS SET FORTH IN 12 U.S.C. CHAPTER 51 AND THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER IT.

(D) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON THE COMMISSIONER'S WEB SITE, OR HAVE PUBLISHED ON A THIRD–PARTY WEB SITE USED FOR LICENSING MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS IN THE STATE, THE EXPEDITED PROCESSES FOR THE ISSUANCE, RENEWAL, OR CHANGE OF STATUS OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION.

(E) THE COMMISSIONER MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

Article – Health Occupations

SUBTITLE 7. SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES – LICENSING.

1–701.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD" MEANS A BOARD AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

(C) (1) "MILITARY SPOUSE" MEANS THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

(2) "MILITARY SPOUSE" INCLUDES A SURVIVING SPOUSE OF:

(I) A VETERAN; OR

(II) A SERVICE MEMBER WHO DIED WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IS SUBMITTED.

(D) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF:

(1) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

(2) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(3) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

(E) (1) "VETERAN" MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS ~~HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY~~ DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IS SUBMITTED.

(2) "VETERAN" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS COMPLETED ACTIVE DUTY AND HAS BEEN DISCHARGED FOR MORE THAN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IS SUBMITTED.

1–702.

(A) IN CALCULATING AN INDIVIDUAL'S YEARS OF PRACTICE IN A HEALTH OCCUPATION, EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL GIVE CREDIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL FOR ALL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AS A SERVICE MEMBER.

(B) EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL CREDIT ANY TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROVIDED BY THE MILITARY AND COMPLETED BY A SERVICE MEMBER TOWARD ANY TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION IF THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION IS DETERMINED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD TO BE:

(1) SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE TRAINING OR EDUCATION REQUIRED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD; AND

(2) NOT OTHERWISE CONTRARY TO ANY OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENT.

~~**1–703.**~~

~~**(A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL ISSUE AN EXPEDITED TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION.**~~

~~**(2) A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS VALID UNTIL THE EARLIER OF:**~~

~~**(I) 6 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE; OR**~~

~~**(II) THE DATE ON WHICH A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IS GRANTED OR A NOTICE TO DENY A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IS ISSUED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD.**~~

~~**(3) AN APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE A HEALTH OCCUPATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING, IN THE FORM AND MANNER REQUIRED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD:**~~

~~**(I) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT IS A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE;**~~

~~**(II) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HOLDS A VALID LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE;**~~

~~**(III) IF THE APPLICANT IS A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN, PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT IS ASSIGNED TO A DUTY STATION IN THE STATE OR HAS ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE;**~~

~~**(IV) IF THE APPLICANT IS A MILITARY SPOUSE, PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT'S SPOUSE IS ASSIGNED TO A DUTY STATION IN THE STATE OR HAS ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE;**~~

~~**(V) IF A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK IS REQUIRED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION, PROOF OF APPLICATION FOR A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK;**~~

~~(VI) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HAS SUBMITTED THE FULL APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION; AND~~

~~(VII) PAYMENT OF ANY APPLICATION FEE REQUIRED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD.~~

~~(4) BEFORE ISSUING A TEMPORARY LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THAT THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION IN THE OTHER STATE ARE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO, OR EXCEED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR, LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION IN THIS STATE.~~

~~(B) (1) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY APPLY TO THE SECRETARY FOR CONSIDERATION OF A PROCESS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, BUT THAT ALLOWS SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES TO OBTAIN A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE IN AN EXPEDITED MANNER THAT MEETS THE GOALS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

~~(2) IF THE SECRETARY APPROVES AN ALTERNATIVE PROCESS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THEN THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE FULFILLED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

~~1–704.~~

~~(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION TO A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE WHO HOLDS A VALID LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE FOR WHICH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION ARE NOT SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE REQUIREMENTS IN THIS STATE.~~

~~(B) A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME, TO PERFORM SERVICES REGULATED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD WHILE THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE COMPLETES ADDITIONAL~~

~~REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION IN THIS STATE.~~

~~(C) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY NOT ISSUE A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS SECTION IF ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION WOULD POSE A RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, OR SAFETY.~~

~~1–705.~~

~~EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEB SITE:~~

~~(1) THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION UNDER § 1–703 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND, IF APPLICABLE, § 1–704 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND~~

~~(2) THE PROCESS FOR APPLYING FOR A PERMANENT LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION FROM THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD.~~

1–703.

A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY ALLOW A LICENSEE OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER WHO IS A MEMBER OF AN ARMED FORCE DEPLOYED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES OR ITS TERRITORIES TO:

(1) RENEW THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE RENEWAL PERIOD WITHOUT PAYMENT OF A PENALTY OR REINSTATEMENT FEE IF THE LATE RENEWAL IS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE DEPLOYMENT; AND

(2) COMPLETE ANY CONTINUING EDUCATION OR CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS OR CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AFTER RENEWING THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE.

1–704.

(A) (1) EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL DEVELOP A PROCEDURE BY WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES FOR A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION CAN NOTIFY THE BOARD THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE.

(2) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION BY INCLUDING A CHECK–OFF BOX ON A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION APPLICATION FORM.

(B) FOR EACH APPLICANT WHO IS A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL ASSIGN TO THE APPLICANT AN ADVISOR TO ASSIST THE INDIVIDUAL WITH THE APPLICATION PROCESS.

(C) (1) EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL EXPEDITE THE LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION OF A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE.

(2) IF A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION, A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL ISSUE THE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION WITHIN 15 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING A COMPLETED APPLICATION.

(D) IF A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD DETERMINES THAT A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE DOES NOT MEET THE EDUCATION, TRAINING, OR EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD SHALL ASSIST THE SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE IN IDENTIFYING:

(1) PROGRAMS THAT OFFER RELEVANT EDUCATION OR TRAINING; OR

(2) WAYS OF OBTAINING NEEDED EXPERIENCE.

1–705.

EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEB SITE INFORMATION ON:

(1) THE EXPEDITED LICENSING PROCESS AVAILABLE TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES UNDER § 1–704 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(2) ANY ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES RELATED TO LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION PROVIDED BY THE BOARD TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES.

1–706.

EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That ~~on~~:

(a) On or before January 1, 2014, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the State Department of Education, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall submit a preliminary report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the implementation of this Act.

(b) On or before January 1, 2015, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the State Department of Education, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall submit a final report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the implementation of this Act.

(c) The reports required under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall, for each licensing unit, include:

(1) the number of applicants who identified themselves as service members, veterans, or military spouses;

(2) the number of service members, veterans, or military spouses whose applications for a license, certificate, or registration were approved;

(3) the number of service members, veterans, or military spouses whose applications for a license, certificate, or registration were denied, including data on the reasons for denial;

(4) data on the licensing unit's application processing times for service members, veterans, and military spouses;

(5) information on the licensing unit's efforts to assist service members, veterans, and military spouses in identifying programs that offer education and training needed to meet the requirements for licensure, certification, or registration;

(6) information on whether the applicable provisions of this Act effectively address the challenges that service members, veterans, and military spouses face when applying for an occupational or professional license, certificate, or registration on discharge from military service or after relocating to the State; and

(7) recommendations on ways to improve the licensing unit's ability to meet the needs of service members, veterans, and military spouses, including recommendations on whether issuing temporary or provisional licenses, certificates, or registrations would allow the licensing unit to more effectively address the challenges that service members, veterans, and military spouses face when applying for an occupational or professional license, certificate, or registration.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.