



# Board of Nursing

*Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary*

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January 22, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: SB 0003 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting – Letter of Information**

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of information for Senate Bill (SB) 3 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting. This bill requires each health occupations board to issue an expedited temporary license or certificate to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; requires each health occupations board to include a checkbox prominently on a license or certification application form; and requires the Maryland Department of Health to publish prominently certain information on its website.

Although the Board supports the efforts to ease the licensure and certification process for service members and their families, the principles of this bill are already covered under the Veterans Auto and Education Improvement Act of 2022 (VAEIA), which was signed into law on January 5, 2023, the Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013, and the interstate Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC).

In order to comply with federal law and the NLC, the Board has established procedures for expediting the applications of military-affiliated individuals. For ease of navigation, licensure and certificate information for military-affiliated applicants can be found prominently displayed on the Board's website. Specifically, if a service member, veteran, or military spouse meets the requirements for a license or certificate, the Board will issue the license or certificate within 15 business days after receiving a completed application. For additional support, the Board also assigns advisors to assist applicants with the application process. The Board also complies with the federal law making valid a military member or spouse's license in a relocated jurisdiction for the duration of the relocation due to military orders. For servicemembers or spouses licensed through interstate licensure compacts, the servicemember or spouse would be subject to the requirements of the compact.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at [mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov](mailto:mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov) or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at [rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov](mailto:rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov), or call (410) 585 – 2049.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Hicks", written in a cursive style.

Gary N. Hicks  
Board President

**The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.**