

# SENATE BILL 799

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By: **Senator Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Labor – Occupational Licenses – Waiver of Application**  
3 **Fees**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring units of the Maryland Department of Labor to waive certain  
5 application fees for certain applicants who hold certain out-of-state licenses under  
6 certain circumstances; authorizing a unit to adopt regulations to carry out certain  
7 provisions of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to application  
8 fees for occupational licenses.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Business Regulation  
11 Section 2–111  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article – Business Regulation  
16 Section 2.5–101  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article – Business Regulation  
21 Section 2.5–105  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
25 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

26 **Article – Business Regulation**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **2-111.**

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

4 (2) (I) "LICENSE" MEANS ANY GRANT OF AUTHORITY TO AN  
5 INDIVIDUAL TO PRACTICE AN OCCUPATION OR A PROFESSION.

6 (II) "LICENSE" INCLUDES A CERTIFICATE, PERMIT, OR  
7 REGISTRATION.

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

10 (B) A UNIT SHALL WAIVE THE APPLICATION FEE FOR AN APPLICANT WHO  
11 THE UNIT DETERMINES HOLDS A VALID LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING FROM A STATE  
12 WHOSE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE EXCEED OR ARE SUBSTANTIALLY  
13 EQUIVALENT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN THIS STATE IF THE  
14 APPLICANT IS:

15 (1) A SERVICE MEMBER, AS DEFINED IN § 2.5-101 OF THIS ARTICLE;

16 (2) A MILITARY SPOUSE, AS DEFINED IN § 2.5-101 OF THIS ARTICLE;

17 (3) ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID; OR

18 (4) UNDER THE AGE OF 30 YEARS.

19 (C) A UNIT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

20 2.5-101.

21 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (b) (1) "License" means any grant of authority to an individual to practice an  
23 occupation or profession.

24 (2) "License" includes a certificate, permit, or registration.

25 (c) (1) "Military spouse" means the spouse of a service member or veteran.

26 (2) "Military spouse" includes a surviving spouse of:

1 (i) a veteran; or

2 (ii) a service member who died before the date on which the  
3 application for a license is submitted.

4 (d) "Service member" means an individual who is an active duty member of:

5 (1) the armed forces of the United States;

6 (2) a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States; or

7 (3) the National Guard of any state.

8 (e) "Unit" means a unit in the Department that is authorized to issue a license.

9 (f) "Veteran" means a former service member who was discharged from active  
10 duty under circumstances other than dishonorable before the date on which the application  
11 for a license is submitted.

12 2.5-105.

13 (a) (1) Each unit shall issue an expedited license to a service member, veteran,  
14 or military spouse who meets the requirements of this section.

15 (2) If a service member, veteran, or military spouse meets the  
16 requirements for licensure, a unit shall issue the license within 60 days after receiving a  
17 completed application.

18 (b) An application for a license shall include the following, in the form and  
19 manner required by the unit:

20 (1) proof that the applicant is a service member, veteran, or military  
21 spouse;

22 (2) proof that the applicant holds a valid license in good standing issued in  
23 another state;

24 (3) if the applicant is a service member or veteran, proof that the applicant  
25 is assigned to a duty station in the State or has established legal residence in the State;

26 (4) if the applicant is a military spouse, proof that the applicant's spouse is  
27 assigned to a duty station in the State or has established legal residence in the State;

28 (5) if a criminal background check is required by the unit for licensure,  
29 proof of application for a criminal background check;

30 (6) proof that the applicant has submitted the full application for licensure;

1 and

2 (7) UNLESS WAIVED UNDER § 2-111 OF THIS ARTICLE, payment of any  
3 application fee required by the unit.

4 (c) Before issuing a license under this section, the unit shall determine that the  
5 requirements for licensure in the other state are substantially equivalent to, or exceed the  
6 requirements for, licensure in this State.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2020.