

HOUSE BILL 196

J2
SB 230/22 – EHE

3lr0326

By: **Delegate Crosby**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2023

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses**
3 **– Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring health occupations boards to issue an expedited temporary
5 license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military
6 spouse who meets certain requirements; requiring each health occupations board to
7 include a check-off box prominently on a license, certification, or registration
8 application form; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to publish
9 prominently certain information on its website; and generally relating to temporary
10 health occupational licensure, certification, registration, and permitting
11 requirements for service members, veterans, and military spouses.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Health Occupations
14 Section 1–701, 1–704, and 1–705
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Health Occupations
19 Section 1–702.1
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Health Occupations**

25 1–701.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

2 (b) “Health occupations board” means a board authorized to issue a license,
3 certificate, or registration under this article.

4 (c) (1) “Military spouse” means the spouse of a service member or veteran.

5 (2) “Military spouse” includes a surviving spouse of:

6 (i) A veteran; or

7 (ii) A service member who died within [1 year] **3 YEARS** before the
8 date on which:

9 **1. FOR THE PURPOSES OF §§ 1-702 AND 1-703**
10 **THROUGH 1-705 OF THIS SUBTITLE,** the application for a **FULL** license, certificate, or
11 registration is submitted; **OR**

12 **2. FOR THE PURPOSES OF § 1-702.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE,**
13 **THE APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR**
14 **PERMIT IS SUBMITTED.**

15 (d) “Service member” means an individual who is an active duty member of:

16 (1) The [armed forces of the United States] **UNIFORMED SERVICES, AS**
17 **DEFINED BY 10 U.S.C. § 101;**

18 (2) A reserve component of the armed forces of the United States; or

19 (3) The National Guard of any state.

20 (e) (1) “Veteran” means a former service member who was discharged from
21 active duty under circumstances other than dishonorable within 1 year before the date on
22 which:

23 **(I) FOR THE PURPOSES OF §§ 1-702 AND 1-703 THROUGH**
24 **1-705 OF THIS SUBTITLE,** the application for a **FULL** license, certificate, or registration
25 is submitted; **OR**

26 **(II) FOR THE PURPOSES OF § 1-702.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE**
27 **APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR**
28 **PERMIT IS SUBMITTED.**

29 (2) “Veteran” does not include an individual who has completed active duty
30 and has been discharged for more than 1 year before:

1 **(I) FOR THE PURPOSES OF §§ 1-702 AND 1-703 THROUGH**
2 **1-705 OF THIS SUBTITLE, the application for a FULL license, certificate, or registration**
3 **is submitted; OR**

4 **(II) FOR THE PURPOSES OF § 1-702.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE**
5 **APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR**
6 **PERMIT IS SUBMITTED.**

7 **1-702.1.**

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

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

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

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

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

23 **(I) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT IS A SERVICE MEMBER,**
24 **VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE, INCLUDING:**

25 **1. FOR A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN, A DD FORM**
26 **214, PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION ORDERS, OR A COMMON ACCESS CARD**
27 **ISSUED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE; OR**

28 **2. FOR A MILITARY SPOUSE, A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE**
29 **AND ONE OF THE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION LISTED IN ITEM 1 OF THIS ITEM;**

30 **(II) PROOF THAT:**

31 **1. THE APPLICANT HAS HELD A VALID LICENSE,**

1 CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED IN ANOTHER
2 STATE FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR;

3 2. EACH VALID LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION,
4 OR PERMIT HELD BY THE APPLICANT ISSUED IN ANOTHER STATE IS IN GOOD
5 STANDING; AND

6 3. EACH VALID LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION,
7 OR PERMIT HELD BY THE APPLICANT REQUIRED SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR
8 QUALIFICATIONS AS THE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT FOR
9 WHICH THE APPLICANT HAS APPLIED, AS DETERMINED BY THE HEALTH
10 OCCUPATIONS BOARD;

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

14 (IV) IF THE APPLICANT IS A MILITARY SPOUSE, PROOF THAT:

15 1. THE APPLICANT'S SPOUSE IS ASSIGNED TO A DUTY
16 STATION IN THE STATE OR HAS ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE; OR

17 2. IF THE APPLICANT IS A SURVIVING SPOUSE
18 DESCRIBED UNDER § 1-701(C)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE APPLICANT HAS
19 ESTABLISHED LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THE STATE;

20 (V) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HAS COMPLETED A NATIONAL
21 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS
22 ADOPTED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD;

23 (VI) PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HAS SUBMITTED AN
24 APPLICATION FOR FULL LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, OR
25 PERMITTING; AND

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

28 (B) (1) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY APPLY TO THE SECRETARY
29 FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE PROCESS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION,
30 REGISTRATION, OR PERMITTING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF
31 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION BUT THAT ALLOWS SERVICE MEMBERS,
32 VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES TO OBTAIN A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE,
33 REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT UNDER THIS ARTICLE IN AN EXPEDITED MANNER THAT
34 MEETS THE GOALS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

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

6 1-704.

7 (a) **[(1)]** Each health occupations board shall **[develop]**:

8 **(1) DEVELOP** a procedure by which an individual who applies for a license,
9 certificate, or registration can notify the board that the individual is a service member,
10 veteran, or military spouse**[/]; AND**

11 (2) **[A health occupations board may satisfy the requirement of paragraph**
12 **(1) of this subsection by including] INCLUDE** a check-off box **PROMINENTLY** on **[a] EACH**
13 **license, certificate, or registration application form TO ALLOW THE INDIVIDUAL TO**
14 **INDICATE WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL IS A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR**
15 **MILITARY SPOUSE.**

16 (b) For each applicant who is a service member, veteran, or military spouse, a
17 health occupations board shall assign to the applicant an advisor to assist the individual
18 with the application process.

19 (c) (1) Each health occupations board shall expedite the process for the
20 licensure, certification, or registration of a service member, veteran, or military spouse.

21 (2) If a service member, veteran, or military spouse meets the
22 requirements for licensure, certification, or registration, a health occupations board shall
23 issue the license, certificate, or registration within 15 business days after receiving a
24 completed application.

25 (d) If a health occupations board determines that a service member, veteran, or
26 military spouse does not meet the education, training, or experience requirements for
27 licensure, certification, or registration, a representative of the board shall assist the service
28 member, veteran, or military spouse in identifying:

29 (1) Programs that offer relevant education or training; or

30 (2) Ways of obtaining needed experience.

31 **(E) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2025, THE**
32 **DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
33 **§ 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE PROCESSING OF**
34 **APPLICATIONS FROM SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES,**

1 INCLUDING, FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 12-MONTH PERIOD:

2 (1) FOR EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD:

3 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM SERVICE
4 MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES;

5 (II) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INCLUDED UNDER ITEM (I)
6 OF THIS ITEM THAT WERE PROCESSED;

7 (III) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INCLUDED UNDER ITEM (I)
8 OF THIS ITEM THAT WERE NOT PROCESSED; AND

9 (IV) FOR THE APPLICATIONS INCLUDED UNDER ITEM (III) OF
10 THIS ITEM, THE REASON WHY PROCESSING WAS DELAYED; AND

11 (2) IF A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD RECEIVED APPLICATIONS
12 FROM SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES THAT WERE NOT
13 PROCESSED, THE PLAN OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD TO IMPROVE THE
14 PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FROM SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND
15 MILITARY SPOUSES.

16 1-705.

17 (A) Each health occupations board shall publish prominently on its website
18 information on:

19 (1) The expedited licensing process available to service members, veterans,
20 and military spouses under § 1-704 of this subtitle; and

21 (2) Any assistance and services related to licensure, certification, or
22 registration provided by the board to service members, veterans, and military spouses.

23 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEBSITE THE
24 INFORMATION THAT EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD IS REQUIRED TO PUBLISH
25 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before June 1, 2024,
27 the Maryland Department of Health shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance
28 with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on the procedures developed by each health
29 occupations board under § 1-704 of the Health Occupations Article, as enacted by Section
30 1 of this Act.

31 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2023.