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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Pichardo, Walaska, Ottiano, and Bates

Date Introduced: March 06, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 5 of the General Laws entitled "BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS"  
2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 87

4 SERVICE MEMBER LICENSURE

5 **5-87-1. Service member licensure. --** (a) The director and each member of the  
6 examining and licensing boards shall, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence by an applicant  
7 for certification or licensure, accept education, training, or service completed by an individual as  
8 a member of the Armed Forces or Reserves of the United States, the National Guard of any state,  
9 the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval Militia of any state toward the qualifications to  
10 receive the license or certification. The director and each appropriate examining and licensing  
11 board shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

12 (b) Each business/profession related board shall establish a procedure to expedite the  
13 issuance of a license, certification or permit to perform professional services regulated by each  
14 such board to a person who is certified or licensed in another state to perform professional  
15 services in a state other than Rhode Island. The procedure shall include:

16 (1) Issuing the person a license, certificate or permit, if, in the opinion of the board, the  
17 requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are substantially equivalent to that  
18 required in this state; or

19 (2) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services

1 regulated by the board in this state by issuing the person a temporary permit for a limited period  
2 of time to allow the person to perform professional services while completing any specific  
3 requirements that may be required in this state that were not required in the state in which the  
4 person was licensed or certified.

5 SECTION 2. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby  
6 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

7 CHAPTER 91

8 SERVICE MEMBER LICENSURE

9 **23-91-1. Service member licensure.** -- (a) The director and each member of the  
10 examining and licensing boards shall, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence by an applicant  
11 for certification or licensure, accept education, training, or service completed by an individual as  
12 a member of the Armed Forces or Reserves of the United States, the National Guard of any state,  
13 the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval Militia of any state toward the qualifications to  
14 receive the license or certification. The director and each appropriate examining and licensing  
15 board shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

16 (b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, each health related board shall  
17 establish a procedure to expedite the issuance of a license, certification or permit to perform  
18 professional services regulated by each such board to a person who is certified or licensed in  
19 another state to perform professional services in a state other than Rhode Island. The procedure  
20 shall include:

21 (1) Issuing the person a license, certificate or permit, if, in the opinion of the board, the  
22 requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are substantially equivalent to that  
23 required in this state; or

24 (2) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services  
25 regulated by the board in this state by issuing the person a temporary permit for a limited period  
26 of time to allow the person to perform professional services while completing any specific  
27 requirements that may be required in this state that were not required in the state in which the  
28 person was licensed or certified.

29 SECTION 3. Title 5 of the General Laws entitled "BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS"  
30 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

31 CHAPTER 88

32 MILITARY SPOUSE LICENSURE

33 **5-88-1. Military spouse licensure.** -- (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary,  
34 each business/profession related board shall establish a procedure to expedite the issuance of a

1 license, certification or permit to perform professional services regulated by each such board to a  
2 person:

3 (1) Who is certified or licensed in another state to perform professional services in a state  
4 other than Rhode Island;

5 (2) Whose spouse is a member of the armed forces of the United States;

6 (3) Whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to Rhode Island; and

7 (4) Who left employment to accompany the person's spouse to Rhode Island.

8 (b) The procedure shall include:

9 (1) Issuing the person a license, certificate or permit, if, in the opinion of the board, the  
10 requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are substantially equivalent to that  
11 required in this state; or

12 (2) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services  
13 regulated by the board in this state by issuing the person a temporary permit for a limited period  
14 of time to allow the person to perform professional services while completing any specific  
15 requirements that may be required in this state that were not required in the state in which the  
16 person was licensed or certified.

17 SECTION 4. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby  
18 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

19 CHAPTER 92

20 MILITARY SPOUSE LICENSURE

21 **23-92-1. Military spouse licensure.** -- (a) Each health related board shall establish a  
22 procedure to expedite the issuance of a license, certification or permit to perform professional  
23 services regulated by each such board to a person:

24 (1) Who is certified or licensed in another state to perform professional services in a state  
25 other than Rhode Island;

26 (2) Whose spouse is a member of the armed forces of the United States;

27 (3) Whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to Rhode Island; and

28 (4) Who left employment to accompany the person's spouse to Rhode Island.

29 (b) The procedure shall include:

30 (1) Issuing the person a license, certificate or permit, if, in the opinion of the board, the  
31 requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are substantially equivalent to that  
32 required in this state; or

33 (2) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services  
34 regulated by the board in this state by issuing the person a temporary permit for a limited period

1 [of time to allow the person to perform professional services while completing any specific](#)  
2 [requirements that may be required in this state that were not required in the state in which the](#)  
3 [person was licensed or certified.](#)

4 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS

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- 1           This act would make it easier for military service members and their spouses to obtain
- 2           certifications and licenses to perform regulated professional services.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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