

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Introduced By: Senators Felag, DiPalma, McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, and Seveney

Date Introduced: February 16, 2017

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-17.1 of the General Laws entitled "Department of
2 Environmental Management" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **42-17.1-2.6. Department of environmental management service member licensure.**

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

12 (b) The director of the department of environmental management, and each of their
13 examining and licensing boards shall establish a procedure to expedite the issuance of a license,
14 certification or permit to perform professional services regulated by each such board to a service
15 person who is certified or licensed in another state to perform professional services in a state
16 other than Rhode Island. The procedure shall include:

17 (1) Issuing the person a license, certificate or permit, if, in the opinion of the director or
18 their board members, the requirements for certification or licensure of such other state are

1 substantially equivalent to that required in this state; or
2 (2) Developing a method to authorize the person to perform professional services
3 regulated by the director and their board members in this state by issuing the person a temporary
4 permit for a limited period of time to allow the person to perform professional services while
5 completing any specific requirements that may be required in this state that were not required in
6 the state in which the person was licensed or certified.

7 **42-17.1-2.7. Department of environmental management military spouse licensure.**

8 (a) The department of environmental management shall establish a procedure to expedite
9 the issuance of a license, certification or permit to perform professional services regulated by
10 their department to a person:

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

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

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

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

16 (b) The procedure shall include:

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

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

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- 1 This act would facilitate for military service members and their spouses to obtain
- 2 certifications and licenses issued by the department of environmental management.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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