

**SB37 ENROLLED**



1 BHC344-3  
2 By Senators Givhan, Butler, Kelley, Livingston, Barfoot, Bell,  
3 Carnley, Hatcher, Scofield, Chesteen, Orr, Jones  
4 RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs  
5 First Read: 07-Mar-23  
6  
7 2023 Regular Session



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 Relating to the Military Family Jobs Opportunity Act;  
5 to amend Section 31-1-6, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by  
6 Act 2022-92, 2022 Regular Session, to extend professional  
7 license reciprocity to spouses of United States Department of  
8 Defense civil servants.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. Section 31-1-6, Code of Alabama 1975, as  
11 last amended by Section 1 of Act 2022-92 of the 2022 Regular  
12 Session, is amended to read as follows:

13 "§31-1-6

14 (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the  
15 Military Family Jobs Opportunity Act.

16 (b) Except as provided in subsection (h), and  
17 notwithstanding other provisions of law, this section shall  
18 apply to any board, agency, commission, or other entity  
19 providing professional licenses or certificates, or both, for  
20 the purpose of employment in the State of Alabama. On or  
21 before January 1, 2023, each board, agency, or commission  
22 providing professional licenses or certificates, or both,  
23 shall adopt rules in conformity with this section for the  
24 purpose of implementing its requirements. The rules shall  
25 provide a method of accomplishing both of the following:

26 (1) The issuance of a license or certificate to an  
27 eligible individual, within 30 days of application, if the  
28 certification or license of the original issuing state or



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29 governing body is similar to that requested from this state,  
30 as provided in subsection (d).

31 (2) A procedure for authorizing an eligible individual  
32 to perform professional services regulated by the board,  
33 agency, or commission in this state pursuant to a temporary  
34 permit, effective for at least 360 days, while the board,  
35 agency, or commission deliberates the application to obtain a  
36 license or certificate in this state, as provided in  
37 subsection (d).

38 (c) For the purposes of this section, an "eligible  
39 individual" is any individual who satisfies all of the  
40 following:

41 (1) Is the spouse of any of the following:

42 a. An active duty, reserve, or transitioning member of  
43 the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard,  
44 or a surviving spouse of a service member who, at the time of  
45 his or her death, was serving on active duty, who is relocated  
46 to and stationed in the State of Alabama under official  
47 military orders. For the purposes of this ~~section~~ paragraph, a  
48 "transitioning ~~service~~ member" is ~~a member of the United~~  
49 ~~States Armed Forces, including the National Guard,~~ on active  
50 duty status or on separation leave who is within 24 months of  
51 retirement.

52 b. An individual currently employed by the United  
53 States Department of Justice or any of its encompassed  
54 offices, agencies, institutes, and bureaus, including, but not  
55 limited to, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the  
56 U.S. Attorney's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,



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57 Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), the Drug Enforcement  
58 Administration (DEA), and the United States Marshal Service  
59 (USMS), who is relocated to Alabama by order of their  
60 employer.

61 c. An individual currently employed at the National  
62 Aeronautics and Space Administration who is relocated to  
63 Alabama by order of their employer.

64 d. An individual currently employed in Alabama as a  
65 civil servant for the United States Department of Defense.

66 (2) Has not committed or participated in an act that  
67 would constitute grounds for refusal, suspension, or  
68 revocation of a professional license or certificate.

69 (3) Has not been disciplined by an authorized entity or  
70 under investigation, in any jurisdiction, in relation to a  
71 professional license or certificate.

72 (d) Any eligible individual under subsection (c) who  
73 possesses a valid license or certificate, in good standing, in  
74 another state, district, or territory of the United States, or  
75 in any branch of the United States Armed Forces, including the  
76 National Guard, that is substantially similar to the license  
77 issued by the appropriate board, agency, or commission in the  
78 State of Alabama shall be approved to continue work in his or  
79 her profession upon relocation to the State of Alabama for  
80 such time as normally allotted with receipt of a license or  
81 certificate from the appropriate board, agency, or commission.  
82 Upon completion of an application, an authorized board,  
83 agency, or commission shall expedite the application according  
84 to statute, adopted rules, or if applicable, at the next



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85 scheduled licensure proceeding for an eligible individual  
86 under subsection (c).

87 (e) Any board, agency, or commission in the State of  
88 Alabama may establish reciprocity with other states for  
89 military spouse professional licensing and certification.

90 (f) Any board, agency, commission, or other entity  
91 providing professional licenses or certificates, or both, for  
92 the purpose of employment in this state, that is created after  
93 April 6, 2018, shall adopt the rules required by this section  
94 within one year after the date of its initial organizational  
95 meeting.

96 (g) Any board, agency, commission, or other entity  
97 providing professional licenses or certificates, or both, for  
98 the purpose of employment in the state, shall waive the  
99 initial licensing fee for the eligible individual upon  
100 application by the eligible individual in a manner prescribed  
101 by the board, agency, commission, or other entity. The board,  
102 agency, commission, or other entity shall process an  
103 application for a fee waiver within 30 days after receiving  
104 the application.

105 (h) This section does not apply to the practice of law  
106 or the regulation of attorneys, any license or registration  
107 issued by the Securities Commission under the Alabama  
108 Securities Act, any certification issued by the Alabama Peace  
109 Officers' Standards and Training Commission, or the practice  
110 of any profession regulated by the Alabama State Board of  
111 Pharmacy, Board of Optometry, Board of Dental Examiners, State  
112 Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Alabama Liquefied Petroleum



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113 Gas Board, or State Board of Medical Examiners."

114 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first  
115 day of the third month following its passage and approval by  
116 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB37

Senate 13-Apr-23

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

Passed: 02-May-23

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By: Senator Givhan