

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 346

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 2331

Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Introduced by: (VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE PORTABILITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR SPOUSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Armed forces" has the same meaning as provided in section 273 103 of the general statutes;
- 4 (2) "Chief executive officer" means any agency head, department
 5 head, executive director or other similar officer of a state agency;
- (3) "Covered license" has the same meaning as provided in 50 USC
 4025a, as amended from time to time; and
- 8 (4) "State agency" means any agency, authority, board, commission,9 council, department, institution or other instrumentality of the state.
- (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, each state
 agency that issues any occupational or professional license, permit,
 certification, registration or other similar credential shall, in accordance

with the provisions of 50 USC 4025a, as amended from time to time,
consider any covered license of a member of the armed forces, or the
spouse of any such member, to be valid at a similar scope of practice and
in the discipline applied for in this state upon such member's or spouse's
satisfaction of the requirements of said section.

(c) Each covered license considered by a state agency to be valid
pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be recorded by such
agency in the appropriate registry of the occupational or professional
license, permit, certification, registration or other similar credential,
relevant to the scope of practice and discipline, that is maintained by
such agency.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2024, each state agency described in
subsection (b) of this section shall publish an application for each
occupational or professional license, permit, certification, registration or
other similar credential issued by such agency, in a form and manner
prescribed by the chief executive officer of such agency, that complies
with the provisions of 50 USC 4025a, as amended from time to time.

30 Sec. 2. Section 21a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the 31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

32 (a) [An] Except as provided in section 1 of this act, for any member of 33 the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, or the spouse of any such 34 member, an occupational or professional license, permit, certification or 35 registration issued by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant 36 to chapter 389, 390, 391, 392, 394, 396, 396a, 399a, 399b, 400, 400b, 400f, 37 400g, 400h, 400j, 400m, 400o or 400p shall be issued, in the occupation or 38 profession applied for and at a practice level determined by the 39 department, to a person who is [(1)] a resident of this state, as defined 40 in section 12-701, and provides a current driver's license, utility bill, 41 lease agreement or property deed indicating their residence in this state 42 [; or (2) married to an active duty member of the armed forces of the 43 United States and accompanies such member, pursuant to an official 44 permanent change of station, to a military installation located in this

45 state,] if such person:

46 [(A)] (1) Holds a valid license, permit, certification or registration in
47 at least one other jurisdiction in the United States in the occupation or
48 profession applied for;

[(B)] (2) Has at least four years of experience, including [(i)] (A)
practice under such license, permit, certification or registration, [(ii)] (B)
classroom education, and [(iii)] (C) on-the-job training;

52 [(C)] (3) Is in good standing in all jurisdictions in the United States in 53 which he or she holds a license, permit, certification or registration and 54 has not had a license, permit, certification or registration revoked or 55 discipline imposed by any jurisdiction, does not have a complaint, 56 allegation or investigation related to unprofessional conduct pending in 57 any jurisdiction and has not voluntarily surrendered a license, permit, 58 certification or registration while under investigation for unprofessional 59 conduct in any jurisdiction;

[(D)] (4) Satisfies any background check or character and fitness check
required of other applicants for the license, permit, certification or
registration;

[(E)] (5) Pays all fees required of other applicants for the license,
permit, certification or registration; and

[(F)] <u>(6)</u> Takes and passes all or a portion of any examination required of other persons applying for the license, permit, certification or registration. [, except a person married to an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States may be required to take and pass all or a portion of such examination at the discretion of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.]

(b) Any person issued a license, permit, certification or registration
pursuant to this section shall be subject to the laws of this state and the
jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Protection.

74 (c) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, the

Commissioner of Consumer Protection may deny an occupational or
professional license, permit, certification or registration if the
commissioner finds such denial is in the best interest of the state.

78 (d) A person applying for a license, permit, certification or 79 registration that is not required to practice an occupation or profession 80 in at least twenty-five states who relocates to this state from another 81 state that did not require a license, permit, certification or registration to 82 practice the person's occupation or profession may be considered to 83 have satisfied the conditions of [subparagraphs (A) and (B) of 84 subdivision (2)] <u>subdivisions (1) and (2)</u> of subsection (a) of this section 85 if he or she establishes to the satisfaction of the Department of Consumer 86 Protection that he or she has four or more years of related work 87 experience with a substantially similar scope of practice within the five 88 years preceding the date of application to said department.

Sec. 3. Section 19a-14d of the general statutes is repealed and thefollowing is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

91 (a) [An] Except as provided in section 1 of this act, for any member of 92 the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, or the spouse of any such 93 member, an occupational or professional license, permit, certification or 94 registration issued by the Department of Public Health pursuant to 95 chapter 368v, 370, 372, 373, 375, 375a, 376, 376a, 376b, 376c, 377, 378, 96 378a, 379, 379a, 380, 381, 381a, 381b, 382a, 382b, 382c, 383, 383a, 383b, 97 383c, 383d, 383e, 383f, 383g, 383h, 384, 384a, 384b, 384c, 384d, 385, 386, 98 387, 387a, 388, 388a, 393a, 395, 397a, 398, 399, 400a, 400c or 474 shall be 99 issued, in the occupation or profession applied for and at a practice level 100 determined by the department, to a person [, including, but not limited 101 to, an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States or 102 such person's spouse,] if:

(1) The person holds a valid license, permit, certification or
registration in at least one other jurisdiction in the United States in the
occupation or profession applied for;

106 (2) The person has practiced under such license, permit, certification

107 or registration for not less than four years;

108 (3) The person is in good standing in all jurisdictions in the United 109 States in which he or she holds a license, permit, certification or 110 registration and has not had a license, permit, certification or 111 registration revoked or discipline imposed by any jurisdiction in the 112 United States, does not have a complaint, allegation or investigation 113 related to unprofessional conduct pending in any jurisdiction, and has 114 not voluntarily surrendered a license, permit, certification or 115 registration while under investigation for unprofessional conduct in any 116 jurisdiction;

(4) The person satisfies any background check or character and fitness
check required of other applicants for the license, permit, certification or
registration; and

(5) The person pays all fees required of other applicants for thelicense, permit, certification or registration.

(b) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this
section, the Department of Public Health may require a person applying
for a license, permit, certification or registration under this section to
take and pass all, or a portion of, any examination required of other
persons applying for such license, permit, certification or registration.

(c) Any person issued a license, permit, certification or registration
pursuant to this section shall be subject to the laws of this state and the
jurisdiction of the Department of Public Health.

(d) Notwithstanding the <u>other</u> provisions of this section and pursuant
to section 19a-14, the Commissioner of Public Health may deny an
occupational or professional license, permit, certification or registration
if he or she finds such denial is in the best interest of the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1 *from passage* New section

Sec. 2	from passage	21a-11b
Sec. 3	from passage	19a-14d

Statement of Purpose:

To reflect in state law an amendment to the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act regarding occupational license portability.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]