

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 83

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request occupational and professional licensing boards and commissions to display prominently on their website a link to licensing information for military-trained applicants and their family members.

WHEREAS, hundreds of military-trained individuals transition out of military service each year from Louisiana military bases, including Barksdale Air Force Base, Fort Polk Army Base, the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Belle Chasse, and the Louisiana National Guard's Camp Beauregard near Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, these outgoing military personnel may be trained plumbers, electricians, occupational therapists, nurses, medics, and may include other medical and non-medical Military Occupational Specialities; and

WHEREAS, these military personnel often need civilian employment to support themselves and their families, but frequently encounter difficulty in translating their military license, certifications, and experience into comparable occupational and professional licenses or certifications; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Louisiana Legislature enacted R.S. 37:3651, which requires occupational and professional licensing boards and commissions to issue a license to military-trained applicants when the Military Occupational Specialty they performed "is substantially equivalent to or exceeds the educational, examination, experience, and other requirements for licensing"; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 37:3651 provides that a professional or occupational licensing board shall issue a license, certification, or registration to a military spouse to allow the spouse to lawfully practice his occupation in this state, if, upon application to a board or commission, the military spouse satisfies certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, even with the enactment of R.S. 37:3651, military personnel and their family members experience difficulties in obtaining a license to practice their occupation lawfully in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, most occupational and professional boards and commissions maintain a wealth of information on their websites, including information relevant to applicants, licensees, and certificate holders; laws and rules governing the occupation or profession; and a list of licensees and certificate holders; and

WHEREAS, a link on the board or commission's website that includes information pertinent to military-trained applicants and their family members would be a valuable resource for such applicants to begin the process to obtain a license or certificate to practice the occupation lawfully in Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request every occupational and professional board and commission in this state to display prominently on their website a link to licensing information for military-trained applicants and their family members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the office of the governor to be made available to each board and commission governed by the provisions of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES